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69 Fleet Street London*

THE

Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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TO THE INDEPENDENT ELECTORS
AND INHABITANTS OF THE BOROUGH OF
ROCHDALE.

GENTLEMEN,
Parliament is about to be dissolved—the trust which you did me the honour to confide in me in 1852, and which since then you have kindly renewed from year to year, will presently revert to your hands—it is my intention to ask your Suffrages once more.

The question immediately at issue between Her Majesty's Government and the present House of Commons is this: whether the representatives of Her Majesty in distant parts of the world shall have and exercise the power of resorting to hostilities (involving an unknown future of expense and bloodshed), not merely in defence of the lives and property of Her Majesty's subjects in those parts, but in pursuance of any policy they may personally, and in opposition to the advice of Ministers at home, be rash and reckless enough to initiate—whether Her Majesty's Government are bound to adopt such proceedings as their own—and whether the representatives of the people can be justified in approving the conduct of the Government in such case irrespectively of its merits. The contest lies between the Executive Government and the High Court of Parliament; and the true ground of quarrel is the recent claim of the Ministers of the Crown, by means of their subordinate officials abroad, to be allowed to commit this country to war, and to persist in carrying it on, without consulting the opinion of Parliament.

Gentlemen.—In the instance of the bombardment of Canton with the avowed object of forcing a right of entry to that city for our Plenipotentiary of Trade at Hong Kong, I expressed my disapproval by my vote. I did so because successive Secretaries of State, including Lord Palmerston himself, have strongly condemned any attempt to realise that right by a resort to force, as impolitic and self-defeating—because it has been waived hitherto for several years with the consent of all parties—because the assertion of it by Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary was revived on his own responsibility—because the recognition of it by the Chinese Commissioner was demanded without previous notice—because the enforcement of it by hostilities was undertaken without reference to the authorities at home—because a great and important branch of our trade has been wantonly endangered—and finally, because a vast destruction of property, an immense loss of life, and a serious increase of taxation, have been thereby inflicted and incurred. And I rejoice in having contributed my vote to a solemn judgment of the House of Commons, which will give fair warning to our officials in every part of the globe, that the material force of this vast empire is not to be available for any and every object for which they may inconsiderately determine to employ it.

Gentlemen.—These unhappy events at Canton are the more to be deplored, inasmuch as, in addition to the loss of life and property which they occasion, they will operate to postpone the consideration and settlement of those important questions of domestic policy in which I know you take the liveliest interest. The thorough reform of our representative system, as the only effectual guarantee of a really responsible administration of our public affairs—the completion of that financial change, the object of which is to adjust taxation to the respective capacity of the classes who bear it—the reduction of the expense of our military and naval establishments, by cutting off the main sources of extravagance and waste in their management—the removal of all the restrictions, whether local or imperial, which still obstruct the full expansion of industry and trade—the simplification of our legal machinery with a view to make justice more accessible to the poor—the abolition of Church-rates, and of all ecclesiastical jurisdiction in civil matters—and the recognition by the Legislature of what is already recognised by public opinion, namely, the right of all Her Majesty's subjects to entire religious liberty:—these are some of the great questions which it is my earnest desire to see as prominent in Parliament as their important bearing on the welfare of the people demands. My votes on these topics are on record. I believe they have been given in harmony with your wishes.

I ask, gentlemen, the renewal of your confidence, in the conviction that you approve generally of my past services. In 1852, you elected me as an untried man—and although, on particular points of my parliamentary conduct, I am well aware that I cannot claim your unanimous concurrence, you have generously tested my qualifications to represent you, rather by my course as a whole, than by individual and isolated acts; and you have testified your approval year after year until now. If, in the main, I have represented your political principles, and have assiduously discharged the honorable duty your kindness imposed upon me. I look to you, as I am satisfied I may do, without the least misgiving, for my re-election—for the borough of Rochdale has never yet been chargeable with inconstancy to its faithful servants.

Gentlemen.—As soon as my parliamentary duties will admit of my leaving town, I hope to be among you. I am ready and anxious to explain to you the grounds of the votes I have given during the brief session now about to close. And I fully expect that the liberal and independent electors of your borough will maintain in the forthcoming election their well-known preference of principle to party, and measures to men.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

EDWARD MIAUL.

Albert-square, March 9, 1857.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE BOROUGH
OF SOUTHWARK.

GENTLEMEN,
In again soliciting the honour of your votes at the ensuing Election, allow me gratefully to acknowledge the repeated expressions of kindness and confidence, made to me at the annual public meetings, as one of your representatives.

The Liberal principles I announced when a candidate for your suffrages in 1852, remain unchanged. These I trust have been consistently affirmed by speeches and votes, as well as by success in carrying several useful measures through Parliament.

As great misapprehension exists with respect to my recent vote on the China question, I have to state that it was conscientious, and not that of faction. Up to that moment, I had been a firm, consistent, and yet independent supporter of Lord Palmerston's Government, and if re-elected I shall continue to yield to his administration my zealous support in favour of all measures of progressive reform.

It shall be my endeavour to merit your approbation by constant and untiring attention to the trade and local interests of the Borough, as well as to the moral, social, and political interests of the nation.

I am, Gentlemen, Your faithful servant,

Holland-street, March 13, 1857. APSLEY PELLATT.

CITY OF LONDON ELECTION.—The Friends and Supporters of LORD JOHN RUSSELL are requested to meet him at the LONDON TAVERN, BISHOPS-GATE-STREET, at Two o'clock precisely, on THURSDAY, March 19.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF LONDON.

GENTLEMEN,

Sixteen years ago I was called upon by a considerable body among you to come forward as a candidate to represent you. It was supposed that my election for the city of London would contribute to the promotion of Free-trade, and the cause of civil and religious liberty.

Accepting your invitation, I relinquished a seat which was highly honourable and independent, and shortly became one of your representatives.

The measures which I have brought forward and supported during that time have generally met with your favour.

The reduction of import duties, the repeal of the corn-laws, the abolition of the differential duties on sugar, the repeal of the restrictions contained in the navigation laws, have been approved by the great majority among you. I have laboured earnestly, with your concurrence, though without success, for the removal of the disabilities affecting the Jews. Equal favour has not attended the course which I have recently pursued. Before I speak of it, you must permit me to observe that, whether popular or otherwise, my votes have been the result of deep convictions formed on no inconsiderable experience of public affairs. I will not venture to say that I may not have been frequently in error; all I can pretend to is a laborious study of the questions in agitation, and an honest desire to promote the honour and welfare of the country.

The time has not arrived for explaining fully the course I took after the bombardment of Canton. I believe it would have been impossible to have made a peace which would have satisfied the expectations of the country before the fall of Sebastopol. I could not, however, decline the mission which was proposed to me in the name of my Sovereign, and it is my opinion that the terms I was prepared to recommend would substantially, though in an inconvenient manner, have secured Turkey against the aggressions of Russia, and would have been honourable to Great Britain. Whether Russia would have accepted them is doubtful.

The question of hostilities in China has made it the duty of Parliament to examine how, and for what purpose, those hostilities were commenced. On looking carefully over the papers relating to this subject I found that in the miserable affair of the Arrow, reprisals had been resorted to, and reparation offered. The Chinese Commissioner had proposed an arrangement for the future, which was declared to be "very proper" in a letter of Consul Parkes of the 22nd of October. But on the 24th, when all was on the eve of adjustment, Sir John Bowring wrote as follows to Sir Michael Seymour: "I cannot doubt that the Imperial Commissioner will now feel the absolute necessity of complying with the demands which have been made, and I have to add that if your Excellency and the Consul should concur with me in opinion that the circumstances are auspicious for requiring the fulfilment of treaty obligations as regards the city of Canton, and for arranging an official meeting with the Imperial Commissioner within the city walls, I shall willingly come to Canton for that purpose," &c.

The consequence was a demand for an official meeting with the Imperial Commissioner within the city walls, and that demand not having been complied with, fire was opened on the Commissioner's residence at one P.M. of the same day upon which the demand had been made.

My objections to these proceedings are—1st. That the new demand was grafted upon a quarrel which otherwise might have been amicably settled; 2nd. That it led to scenes of bloodshed and destruction wherein many innocent persons perished; 3rd. That such a demand ought to have been addressed to the Emperor, and that due time should have been allowed for an answer; 4th. That before hostilities were commenced, due preparations should have been made, in concert with the authorities at home, for the protection of the lives and properties of British subjects; 5th. That the demand of access to the Commissioner to be enforced by arms was not authorised by the instructions of the Secretary of State.

When the tidings of these events arrived in England, the Ministry had a question of some difficulty to determine. There is some hazard and some discouragement attendant upon the disavowal of public servants performing their duties at a distance. On the other hand, the entire and complete adoption of the proceedings at Canton involved the discredit of sanctioning acts of violence which justice could not approve, and the danger of extending partial hostilities into a sanguinary war. It would seem that the error of either course might have been obviated by despatching a person of superior authority to Hong Kong, with instructions to defend the lives and properties of British subjects, and to restore as soon as possible a state of peace.

This, it appears, is now intended; but one is at a loss to perceive why a course advisable on the 10th March should not have been taken on the 10th January. Or, if Sir John Bowring was worthy of entire approval in January, why he should be virtually superseded now, when his policy and his conduct remain the same.

I need not allude to the charge of combination and conspiracy against the majority of the House of Commons. That was the falsehood of a day, which a few hours of reflection must dispel. For my own part, I took the same view of these lamentable affairs as Sir Francis Baring, my old friend and colleague, and I willingly borrow from his vindication of his vote the following passage: "I had no choice left, and deliberately, and as if I had been in a jury-box, I gave my vote that the papers laid upon the table failed to establish satisfactory grounds for the violent measures resorted to at Canton on the late affair of the Arrow. I shall be told that, however true these words may be, still the motion was practically a censure on the Government, and it was my duty to vote against it. I have been a party man all my life, and am not willing to underrate party considerations. In many cases I perfectly understand that, weighing the evils or advantages of two alternatives, it may be perfectly justifiable to prefer the retaining a good Government in office rather than the carrying any particular motion, however good. But there must be some limit to these party feelings. I cannot rate war and all its horrors as a light matter. For the shedding of blood, even of our enemies, I believe we are responsible to a higher tribunal; we have no right to go to war without a justifiable cause; and I do not reckon as a justifiable cause the desire to keep my friends in office."

Then again, it is said, that although the Canton hostilities

might not be justifiable, Lord Palmerston ought to be supported in continuing them because he conducted the war against Russia with great vigour, and brought it to an honourable termination. I cheerfully applauded his vigour in carrying on war, and his moderation in making peace; but to support wanton and unnecessary hostilities on account of the merit of the Minister in a contest which is past seems to me a mode of testifying national gratitude utterly indefensible.

It is not probable, however, that the concerns of China will occupy much of the attention of the new Parliament. But the conduct of foreign affairs is closely connected with our policy at home.

By a course at once firm and conciliatory, the steady maintenance of our own rights, and a just regard to the rights of other nations, we shall best preserve peace.

By establishing peace upon lasting foundations, we shall obtain the means of enforcing economy in the public expenditure. With peace and economy we shall obtain leisure to pursue the work of legal, social, ecclesiastical, and political reform. I am perfectly aware that the terms Peace, Economy, and Reform, have for the moment lost their charm to the ears of the present generation. But I must yet declare that, if again elected your representative, you must not expect from me an abjuration of my old creed. In office and out of office, I have pursued the objects which those three words are intended to designate. The present Government, sprung from the Liberal party, cannot find their power permanently on any other basis than that of the good old principles and the good old cause. Whatever may be your determination, it is my purpose to adhere to them for the remainder of my life.

I have great pleasure in expressing to you, on this occasion, my grateful sense of the support I have received from you during the eventful period I have served you as your Representative. Come what may, I shall always look back with pride on our long and honourable connexion.

With this explanation I leave the election where the Constitution has placed it, in your hands. Should you think fit to return me again as your Representative, I shall endeavour to the best of my abilities to fulfil the arduous duties belonging to that situation.

I remain, Gentlemen, your faithful and obliged servant,

J. RUSSELL.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE TOWER HAMLETS.

GENTLEMEN,

The expectation of an immediate dissolution of Parliament imposes upon me the duty of again soliciting a renewal of the confidence you have reposed in me. I have no pretension to urge beyond the intention to act independently and honestly for the interest of the Tower Hamlets, with which I am connected by so many ties.

My votes in Parliament are before you: they have been uniformly given in favour of reform and retrenchment. I have always voted in favour of the ballot, against the grant to the College of Maynooth, and I have given a general and conscientious support to the present Government; but I am no party man. I seek nothing from any Ministry; I will not oppose them when I think them right; they shall not have my support when I believe them to be wrong.

With reference to the recent question of the war in China, I voted in favour of Ministers, because I believe they adopted the only course open to them in the difficult circumstances in which they were placed. I think that Lord Palmerston is entitled to the gratitude of the country for having concluded a peace which has effectively checked the grasping ambition of a Power which aimed at the universal domination of Europe.

Gentlemen, with these views, permit me to renew the assurance that, should you again honour me with your confidence, it shall be my earnest endeavour, diligently and conscientiously, to promote the welfare and prosperity of our extensive and important borough.

With every sentiment of respect and regard, I have the honour to remain, your faithful and obliged friend and servant,

CHARLES S. BUTLER.

Cazenovia, Hackney, March 7.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE BOROUGH OF FINSBURY.

GENTLEMEN,

Alderman Challis having retired from the representation of your borough, I beg to offer myself as a candidate.

The political principles which I hold are those which have always received the support of the great majority of the electors of Finsbury.

I am in favour of the widest possible extension of the Suffrage, the Vote by Ballot, and the shortening of the duration of Parliament.

Being strongly convinced that the patronage of the State has a tendency to corrupt the purity of religious worship, I am in favour of the disendowment of all religious establishments.

The Removal of Jewish Disabilities, and the Abolition of Church-rates, are essential to the completion of our religious liberties.

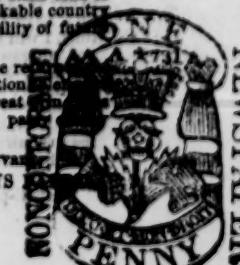
I would strenuously aim at a large reduction of expenditure, and the economical and administrative reform of all public departments. Sincerely attached to the principles of local self-government, I shall devote my best attention to the local interests of the constituency.

I deeply regret the unfortunate collision between England and China, which has resulted in the shedding of human blood, and am prepared cordially to support such measures as shall lead to the establishment of our relations with that remarkable country upon a permanent basis, and prevent the possibility of future misunderstanding.

If, honoured with your confidence, I should be re-elected to Parliament, I shall go there with a firm determination to support no factious combinations, but to carry out the great principles of religious and civil freedom, irrespective of any party or government.

I have the honour to remain, your faithful servant,

J. HUMPHREYS.



NEWSPAPER

TO THE INDEPENDENT FREEMEN AND ELECTORS OF THE BOROUGH of BOSTON.

GENTLEMEN,

The present Parliament being on the eve of dissolution, you will almost immediately have to exercise the great trust and responsibility of electing your representatives. I therefore beg to offer myself for your suffrages, and to solicit your renewed confidence.

The immediate cause of the Dissolution has been the combination of the Conservative and Peelite parties, together with the alliance of several disappointed members, attached to no party, who very early in the Session found a factious excuse for attacking the Government. The Chinese difficulty was eagerly caught at as the weapon to strike with; and you, in common with the other electors of the country, are now called upon to declare your sentiments respecting this attack upon Lord Palmerston and the Liberal party.

I am no advocate for a "turbulent and aggressive policy," yet it is absolutely necessary to our existence as a great, a free, and an independent nation, that our fellow-countrymen and our flag, when they are unjustly attacked or insulted, should have the protection of the naval and military forces of the country. Our commerce and our ships are found in every port in the world, and, unless we distinctly proclaim to the nations of the earth that no insult or injury will be permitted, there will be no safety for our trade, and we must renounce the proud title of mistress of the seas.

I consider it both factious and unjust to condemn the Government upon an isolated portion of its policy, having reference to a remote nation, of whose temper and disposition towards us, people in England are not so well able to form a correct judgment as those upon the spot. The policy of the Government should, in my opinion, be viewed as a whole. Believing it, in this respect, to be one which has given the country peace at home and which has maintained the national honour and dignity abroad, as well as cemented our best alliances with continental nations, I have on all important questions given it my independent support.

The domestic politics of the country have suffered by the political feuds of the different parties, and many necessary reforms have been thereby delayed. In the next Parliament I hope to be enabled to assist in carrying out measures for the benefit of the great body of the people. A careful expenditure, consistent with the safety and honour of the country, will, I trust, be followed by reduced taxation.

As to your Local affairs, I need not tell you that your interests are my interests, your prosperity my prosperity, and your honour my honour. To serve you is my highest ambition. I have never deserted you; and I feel quite sure you will again give me your confidence—a confidence which I hope will be written in the poll-book as almost unanimous. Should I receive for the second time the high honour of your suffrages, I shall go back to Parliament with increased influence; and this influence and this proud position I beg to assure you shall always be exercised, to the best of my judgment and ability, for the good of my native town and of the empire at large.

I shall be with you as soon as parliamentary business will permit; in the meantime, I feel assured that my friends will not lose any opportunity of strengthening the hands of the Liberal party and the cause of good government all over the world.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, yours faithfully,

HERBERT INGRAM.

House of Commons, March 10, 1857.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE BOROUGH OF LAMBETH.

GENTLEMEN,

Summoned by numerous and repeated calls to become a Candidate for the Representation of your Borough, I should have considered it a mark of disrespect to such a Constituency, were I to refuse at once to place myself at your service.

Connected with you by the closest ties, both by property and descent, I claim to represent your feelings, sympathies, and interests, in a degree with which few others can compete.

Although young in years, I have received a Political and Social training, which has rendered me a member of the most advanced section of the great Liberal party.

I am necessarily a strong and unflinching advocate of the great principles of extensive Parliamentary Reform, for the removal of those blemishes which yet disfigure our Electoral System, and the steady and regular development of that Political Liberty for which we have as yet only prepared the way, foremost among which I place Vote by Ballot and a large Extension of the Franchise.

I think that the fearful errors which have been committed in all departments of our Administration, the shipwreck of the oldest reputations, demonstrate in the clearest manner the urgent necessity for a well-considered but sweeping measure of Administrative Reform carried into every section of our Government Departments, but more especially those which have shown themselves hopelessly tainted with the sins of lavish extravagance, glaring incapacity, and the grossest nepotism.

I need hardly say that I should not have ventured to solicit your suffrages were I not in the fullest sense an advocate for the freest and most unfettered development of the great principles of Free Trade, principles which have received so brilliant a confirmation, and which have principally contributed to maintain our commercial position as first among the nations of the earth.

I have devoted a large share of time and attention to the study of the great questions of our Social Organisation, and especially the regulation of the principles which ought to determine the Relations of Capital and Labour, and trust that, as a large Employer, I have at least approximated to a satisfactory solution. My connexion with the Working Classes has deeply impressed upon my mind the necessity for the most liberal and comprehensive view of the Education Question, and I may be permitted to point with pride at my own personal efforts to carry out practically the principles I profess. I have not, however, confined my attention to the rising generation, but have consecrated a portion of those goods with which Providence has endowed me to the advance of the Social and Physical well-being of the Working Men, and should I be successful in my Candidature, shall in Parliament be fully prepared zealously to promote all measures tending to that end.

I conceive that I should be failing in my duty to the interests of the Commercial and Trading Classes, whose support I seek, were I not to avow my sincere regret at the uncertain and conflicting state of the Laws which regulate our Banking System, my belief in the urgent necessity for stringent Legislation on this point, and for the hearty co-operation of all members of the community, in elevating the present condition of our Commercial Morality.

No man would, I feel sure, dare to appeal to the Electors of Lambeth who had not nailed to the mast the Standard of Religious Liberty; I am, therefore, Opposed on principle to every form of Grant of Public Money for Religious Purposes, and should earnestly advocate an immediate Adjustment of the Church-rate Question—that perennial source of bitterness and contention.

On the vexed questions of our Foreign Relations, I most vehemently Condemn the anti-national policy of the Unnatural Coalition which has recently disgraced our Legislature, a policy identical with that which deceived the Russians into a belief of our weakness, and led to the disastrous contest from which it cost us so heavy an Expenditure of Blood and Treasure honourable to emerge. I shall unquestionably Support any Minister who will maintain the honour and independence of our Flag, who shall protect the Weak against the Strong, Liberal Governments against despotic Tyranny, who shall repress King Bomba, read a lesson to King Clicquot, and afford that encouragement to our valiant and faithful Allies in Sardinia and Turkey which they have proved themselves so well to deserve; at the same time, I will never consent to enter the People's House as a blind and unreasoning supporter of Lord Palmerston, or any other Minister, but shall maintain that independence of spirit and character, without which I should be unfit to represent you.

I shall be happy to afford publicly to each and all of you the fullest explanation of my views on any points on which you may require it.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your faithful servant,

WILLIAM ROUPELL.

Roupell-park, Brixton, March 11, 1857.

TO THE ELECTORS OF THE BOROUGH OF FINSBURY.

GENTLEMEN,

I have had the honour of receiving a Requisition, signed by 2,012 of your body, to become a Candidate to represent you in Parliament.

To this Requisition I have much pleasure in responding, and I seek your suffrages because I believe the opinions of the great majority of the Electors are in unison with my own.

I am an advocate for progressive and complete reform in every department of the State, and having no dread of innovation if well directed, I would entirely abolish laws and customs which have become inapplicable, inoperative, or positively mischievous from lapse of time, change of circumstances, and (in some cases) by their own inherent vices.

I believe that the House of Commons, as at present constituted, does not represent the people of this country. Every measure, therefore, which has for its object to make it more completely the Commons' House, would receive my ardent support.

In my opinion this object cannot be effected by any single measure. We must have the Vote by Ballot, a shortening of the duration of Parliaments, a large Extension of the Suffrage, and a re-distribution of our Electoral Districts, which would involve the removal of that anomaly in our present system, viz., Boroughs with Constituencies so small as to make it an absurdity that they should possess the power of sending Members to our Legislative Assembly, while large districts are totally unrepresented.

By these means we should make our Constitution a reality, and the people would be satisfied that a debate and decision of the House of Commons was the expression of the will and opinion of the Country.

I would, in financial matters, insist upon the strictest economy, compatible with efficiency; and I would narrowly scrutinise every new measure with the view of making the burden of taxation fall equally on all classes. I need hardly, therefore, say, that I should do my utmost to reduce the present enormous Income-tax, which, in addition to the injustice of its mode of assessment, is levied on incomes too small to bear it, and presses so severely upon the middle classes, by charging income derived by the sweat of the brow or the labour of the brain (and therefore precarious) in the same proportion and to the same extent as that derived from realised property.

I am and always have been for Free-trade, and I desire to see its principles more fully developed.

On the important question respecting China, which will shortly be submitted by Her Majesty's Government to the country for decision, my opinion is, that the Government are in the right, and they would therefore have my most strenuous support.

I am for the entire abolition of compulsory Church-rates, and shall always be found advocating the great principles of Civil and Religious Liberty for all classes, without distinction, creed, denomination, or country.

I am desirous of seeing a complete reform or abolition of the Ecclesiastical Courts, knowing as I do the frightful source of injustice they are to the poor man, and of expense to the rich.

I desire, also, to see a thorough reform of the Corporation of London, so that that institution may be made conformable to the laws and customs of the present day.

Should you do me the honour of electing me, I shall always be found advocating and voting for all measures which may have for their object the improvement of the moral and social condition of the people, and for producing the greatest benefit for the greatest number.

I am, Gentlemen, your obedient servant,

WILLIAM COX.

Canbury-square, Islington, 7th March, 1857.

MOST IMPORTANT NOTICE !!!

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held at EXETER HALL, STRAND, on MONDAY EVENING, 6th April next, at Eight o'clock, for the purpose of giving explanations and enrolling Members.

County Fire Office,

41, Lower Belgrave-place, Pimlico (S.W.).
The truly wonderful success of the No. 4 Congregational Building Society, (which is now closed against investing Members,) and the impetus given to our Societies by the highly satisfactory and excellent editorial notice in the "British Standard" of February 27, render it absolutely necessary that we should no longer remain as it were in obscurity, but at once take advantage of the favourable combination of circumstances, by enlarging and extending our operations and usefulness. I am, therefore, (in compliance with the wishes of several influential gentlemen at the West End of the Town,) establishing what may emphatically be termed the **BEST BUILDING SOCIETY** the World ever saw! upon a principle at once fair and just both to Borrowers and Investors.

The duration is limited to, and fixed for, Ten Years.

The Investors are guaranteed Six per cent. interest upon withdrawal, and a certain fixed amount for the Share at the end of Ten Years, with Profits.

The Borrowers, as well as the Investors, will share the surplus Profits at the end of Ten Years.

£3,000

Will be submitted for competition at the first SUBSCRIPTION MEETING, the First Monday in May next, to be held in EXETER HALL, STRAND, LONDON.

Friends desirous of joining the "INCOMPARABLE BUILDING SOCIETY," will please communicate, without delay, with

ROBERT GEO. PEACOCK,
Manager of the Congregational Building Societies.

LONDON UNADULTERATED FOOD COMPANY (Limited),

For the IMPORTATION, MANUFACTURE, and SUPPLY of FOOD, DRINKS, and DRUGS, in a PURE STATE.

CAPITAL 100,000*l.*, in 5,000 SHARES of 20*l.* each, with Power to increase. DEPOSIT, 5*l.* per Share.

The Liability Limited to the amount of each Share.

Incorporated under the Joint-Stock Companies Act of 1856, with Limited Liability.

TRUSTEES.

General Sir JOHN FORSTER FITZGERALD, K.C.B., M.P.
HENRY MORRIS, Esq., late Madras Civil Service.

DIRECTORS.

The Right Hon. Lord THOMAS PELHAM CLINTON, 10, Cleveland-square, Chairman.

The Hon. F. H. F. BERKELEY, M.P. for Bristol, Victoria-square, Pimlico, Deputy-Chairman.

JOHN CROPP, Esq., Oaklands, Clapham.

CHARLES HENEAGE, Esq., 3, Cadogan-place, Belgrave-square.

SAMUEL J. NOBLE, Esq., Soho, and 8, Moreton-street, Pimlico.

Capt. WILLIAM PEEL, 24, Beaumont-street, Portland-place.

(With power to add to their number.)

CHIEF ANALYST.

Dr. LETHBY, Professor of Medical Jurisprudence, London Hospital, and Officer of Health for the City of London.

SOLICITORS—Messrs. HARBIN and SMITH, 12, Clement's-inn.

BANKERS—THE BANK of LONDON, Threadneedle-street.

GENERAL MANAGER—WILLIAM CRIBB, Esq.

OFFICES—25, BUCKLERSBURY, London.

The Adulteration of our Food has become so dangerous and universal a practice, that the Legislature have deemed it necessary to inquire searching into the social evil by means of a Committee of the House of Commons, which has found it to be no fanciful chimera, but a dangerous fact, that nearly all the necessities of life are fearfully adulterated.

The "Times" newspaper has made the most strenuous efforts to arouse the attention of the public to a sense of the dangers they incur from the present system, and the importance of an effectual remedy being found. In one of its leading articles the evil is thus graphically depicted:—

"We pay not only with our money, but our lives. For the worst of it is, that the articles we purchase are not merely diluted—they are adulterated—positively—abominably—poisonously. There is scarcely a single article of daily use which it is possible to procure genuine from ordinary shops."

"We ask for Bread, and we receive a Stone—

"For Coffee, and we receive Chicory—

"For Chicory, and we receive Burnt Carrots, and Powder of Dried Horses' Liver—

"For Oil of Almonds, and we receive Prussic Acid.

"What are we to do when our meat and drink are poisoned?"

"And again—

"Surely any one of respectability sufficient to gain credence for his assertion would make a fortune were he to set his face strenuously against all imposture, and determine to sell only genuine articles, even at a slightly enhanced price."

There is no exaggeration in saying that numbers of invalids, delicate women, and tender children, have fallen victims to adulterations of food, drink, and drugs. Paralysis has also been clearly traced to this cause, and the universal diffusion of indigestion owes its origin very largely to the effect of the dangerous adulterations of our food.

To remedy this great social evil, the London Unadulterated Food Company is established.

Each article vended will be manufactured or prepared entirely by the Company, and foreign productions will be imported direct; it will therefore derive the profits of both manufacturer and dealer, at the same time that it ensures perfect freedom from adulteration.

A wholesale and export trade of unequalled magnitude may already be considered as guaranteed.

Shareholders will have the privilege of purchasing their goods of the Company at wholesale price. The great additional value that will attach to the shares from this regulation is obvious.

Amongst the questions put to one of the witnesses by the Committee of the House of Commons were the following:—

Q. Is it your opinion that adulteration is very prevalent?

A. I find adulteration to be exceedingly prevalent: it may be stated, generally, that it prevails in nearly all articles which it will pay to adulterate.

Q. Is it your opinion that the adulterations of the various articles to which you have referred have a very important influence on the public health?

A. No doubt, I think, can possibly be entertained on the subject—in the list are some of the most virulent poisons.

FORM OF APPLICATION FOR SHARES.

To the Directors of the "London Unadulterated Food Company" (Limited), 25, Bucklersbury, London.

Gentlemen.—I request that you will allot me *Shares*, of 20*l.* each, in the above-named Company, and I undertake to accept the same, or such less number as you may allot me; to pay for the same, and to sign the articles of association of the Company, when required, and I enclose [have paid into the bankers of the Company] (alter as the case may be) a deposit of £2.

Dated this day of

Name in full.....

Profession or Business

Residence

Each application must be accompanied by a remittance of, or a banker's receipt for, 1*l.* per share. Should the full number of shares applied for not be allotted, a proportionate part of the amount will be immediately returned, or applied to the payment of the remaining 4*l.* per share upon the number allotted.

THE

Ponconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

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of political morals which can tolerate, and even applaud, the dexterity of one who attaches no importance to any creed; and we abhor that latitudinarianism which can fling all measures of social, political, and ecclesiastical progress under the wheels of the great Juggernaut of the day.

But we are allowing ourselves to be betrayed from our purpose. Our desire is to stimulate Dissenting electors to such a discharge of their duty as, whatever may happen, will give them most satisfaction to be looked back upon from the distant future. Their judgment of particular men may be set aside by the events of the morrow; but their adherence to principles they have identified with truth, justice, and religion, can never disappoint or shame them. It may be, that favourable results develop themselves with less rapidity than a too sanguine expectation had anticipated, and that progress takes not the precise line which it was supposed it would do. But it is progress nevertheless; and it faithfully represents both in its degree and its direction the fidelity and the energy of the party who desire it. No one can deny that the recompense reaped by Dissenters as the harvest of their exertions at the last general election has been neither stinted nor worthless. The position which their principles have taken in Parliament, the respectful attention which they have won for themselves, the misinformation and misrepresentations which have been cleared away, the broad foundation which has been laid for future discussion, not in Parliament only but all over the country—these, if one could point to no actual effect, will surely be accepted by the intelligent and the thoughtful as earnest of success, well worth any sacrifices that were made to obtain them. True, they are but preliminaries to a more decisive struggle, but they are not on that account to be undervalued. They bring us much nearer to the object of our desire. They comprise work done which needed to be done. They may be looked upon as marches made towards the stronghold hereafter to be assailed. And it is for the electors to determine by their conduct during the next month, whether the ground thus won shall be held or abandoned. We have not the least misgiving as to what their determination will be.

The information which we receive from all quarters justifies our confident expectation that what may be described as the ecclesiastical-progress party in the House of Commons will receive a considerable accession of strength. We know not, we scarcely care, whether a larger number of members, identified by profession with the Protestant Dissenters of the realm, will be returned to serve in the next Parliament; but we have good grounds for believing that the objects which the Dissenters have at heart will be put forward in almost every available constituency, and will secure for themselves efficient representation. On the question of Church-rates, at least, we have reason to hope that the majority next session will be large and decided—and on Mr. Miall's Irish Ecclesiastical policy, we are tolerably confident of an addition to the number of Protestant votes, as well as a heartier interest in the success of his question, than has ever been before displayed. We mention these two questions as furnishing an index of the spirit which may be looked for in the treatment of ecclesiastical topics in general, rather than as comprising all the changes which the next House will be disposed to promote in this particular direction. We value the pledges given by candidates to these two measures far more for what they imply, than for what they actually express. And if, in some instances, they are extorted by pressure from reluctant men, that pressure indicates, at least, the earnest determination with which a portion of every Liberal constituency are actuated on these and kindred topics.

On the whole, we feel warranted in assuring our friends that, so far back as our recollection can carry us, never were their prospects brighter. It will be their own fault if they fail to realise them. They are able, we think, if they knew their own strength, and would put it forth to the utmost, to accomplish much greater things than

we think it at all likely they will aspire to. They are not, perhaps, so bold as they might be with effect. Their chief want, however, is a lack of suitable candidates. This, it is true, nothing but time can fully remedy. We trust they will make the best of their circumstances in every case—and that in no case whatsoever will they consent to let their principles lie wholly in abeyance. We are not sure that they may not, by the exercise of a little moral suasion, brace up such men even as Lord John Russell, who, at a moment like this, may be supposed to feel some regret that he has not dealt with them after a more generous fashion. At any rate, they may make him conscious, by their very forbearance to press upon a statesman in tribulation, that he owes much to the principles and to the men he has far too lightly esteemed of late years. Their wisdom will be shown in skilfully adapting themselves to emergencies in every instance—their fidelity, in taking care that under no circumstances shall their best efforts for the advancement of their principles be wanting.

EXAMPLE TO DISSENTING ELECTORS.

The following interesting communication has reached us from Chatham:—

You will be gratified to hear that the Dissenters of this town have not allowed the opportunity to pass without making our candidate know their views on the subject of Church-rates. His first statement was not at all satisfactory to them; they summoned a meeting, after which about a hundred Dissenting electors waited on him and entered fully into their views on this subject, which, I am sure, produced a good effect, and led him to see this matter in a very different light from what he had done before; and the result was a pledge that he would support Sir W. Clay's Bill, and should any clause be introduced into it which the Dissenters of the House of Commons disapproved, he would vote against it.

We earnestly hope that the spirited example of the Chatham Dissenters will be extensively followed throughout the country. What has been done there may be accomplished elsewhere. A few zealous men in every constituency may, at the present crisis, do incalculable service to their principles by adopting a similar course. We would earnestly press this upon the immediate attention of our friends. If the principles they hold are right and dear to them, now is the time to stand by them. Who knows what may be the result? Listen to the language of Colonel Clifford, the Liberal candidate for the Isle of Wight, and Lord Palmerston's private secretary:—

I consider the present state of the law so unsatisfactory, the cause of so much irritation, and so adverse to the true interests of the Church, that, unless an amicable settlement can be speedily arrived at, I should vote for their immediate and entire abolition.

This expression of opinion may not be a kind of pilot-balloon to show the conclusion to which events are driving the Prime Minister, but it is very much like an invitation to the opponents of the burden to make renewed efforts for "immediate and entire abolition," and indicates either a fear or a hope that this question, which is so much of a thorn in the side of successive Liberal Governments, may be taken in hand and finally settled by the new Parliament. We trust every candidate, Tory, Whig, and Radical, will be catechised on the subject, whether he stands for a borough or a county constituency. If the Dissenters of every town in the United Kingdom exhibited the earnestness and courage of our Chatham friends, the fate of Church-rates would certainly be decided before Midsummer next.

DECLARED OPINIONS OF CANDIDATES ON ECCLESIASTICAL QUESTIONS.

We give below extracts from such of the election addresses as have reached our hands bearing upon ecclesiastical questions. We need hardly say that they are by no means complete. Many of the staunchest supporters of ecclesiastical reforms, such as Church-rate abolition and disendowment in Ireland, have not found it necessary to express their well-known sentiments in a brief address. Others have reserved the expression of their views. But the quotations we have given, limited though they be, are a satisfactory indication that mere general phrases

[MARCH 18, 1857.]

such as "civil and religious freedom" are not acceptable to the constituencies of 1857. We hope we have passed that stage. It is clear that ecclesiastical reforms will not be sunk during the coming election in a senseless cry for Lord Palmerston, if Dissenters do their duty. In our next we hope to greatly extend our list of candidates' opinions, and shall be much obliged to any of our friends who will send us extracts from written or spoken addresses bearing upon ecclesiastical questions. It will be a useful record for future reference.

I object to the maintenance of laws which compel the members of one religious persuasion to contribute to the maintenance of edifices devoted to a worship which is not their own; and I therefore desire the abolition of Church-rates. I consider the existing system of Ecclesiastical Establishments in Ireland to be unsound in principle, and mischievous in practice, and I desire to see that system carefully revised by Parliament.—*The Hon. A. Gordon, Liskeard [Son of the Earl of Aberdeen.]*

We are called upon besides, to look with watchfulness and solicitude to the state of our National Church; and if by human means it can be saved from perilous innovations and from those aberrations from sound doctrine which threaten at once its purity, its integrity, and its stability, it is the duty of us all to labour to that end; a duty, in the earnest performance of which I trust that I shall not be found wanting.—*Sir Fitzroy Kelly, East Suffolk.*

Venerating the time-honoured tenets of that religion which is the glory, and, in my opinion, a great source of strength in this country, I should always be found supporting the interest of the Protestant Church; and I hope and pray, that by unity amongst its ministers, and in the purity of their administrations, it may ever be powerful to maintain itself against the attacks of open enemies or of secret foes.—*Lord Adolphus Vane Tempest, North Durham.*

It is, perhaps, unnecessary for me to assure you of my attachment to the Established Protestant Church, nor to assure you that any invasion of her privileges will always be resisted by me to the utmost of my power. Unwilling to say anything that might cause unnecessary pain to any of my Roman Catholic fellow-subjects, I will merely point to the votes given by me on the subject of the College of Maynooth; whilst at the same time I must conscientiously pursue the course I have hitherto taken, and firmly advocate the support of any measure the object of which is to repeal the grant to that college.—*J. Fraser, South Durham.*

But while my votes should be guided by a desire to promote the happiness and to recognise the rights equally of all classes of my fellow-countrymen, I distinctly pledge myself to oppose all rash attempts at innovation in Church or State, since it is my firm conviction that, at the present day, the Statesman's mission is to build up and to develop, rather than to pull down and to destroy.—*W. H. Leatham, Wakefield.*

By education and conviction I am a member of the Established Church of England; but, whilst my attachment to it would lead me to uphold the Establishment as an integral part of the constitution, still I am a zealous advocate of religious liberty in the broadest sense of the term, and highly appreciate the useful and successful labours of many of those who dissent from the communion of my own Church. I believe that Civil, Religious, and Commercial Freedom form the basis and bulwark of England's greatness and prosperity.—*J. C. D. Charlesworth, Wakefield.*

I have been ever at my post to support the interests of the Established Churches of these kingdoms, and to maintain the rights of the Presbyterians of Ulster; and for the future, as during the past, my first care shall be the promotion and protection of the Reformed Religion, as it is cherished by every denomination of Protestants.—*R. Davison, Belfast.*

I invited your attention to the status and condition of that admirable body of men, the Presbyterian clergy of Ireland, and I showed the necessity, which recent events had indicated, that they should have an advocate in the House of Commons, in order to guard against any attempt at a diminution of the Royal bounty—a pittance small indeed (having regard to the wealth of the State), to be allotted to these earnest and laborious ministers. The appointments of bishops and other dignitaries of the Established Church have been such as to create very great satisfaction in the Church itself, and to give contentment to kindred Churches and congregations.—*F. Maedonagh, Carrickfergus (County).*

I think a measure might be passed most beneficial to the Presbyterian people and their ministers, which would enable members of congregations voluntarily, with the co-operation of their landlords, to charge their lands with a per-cent on their rents, to be collected and paid by the landlords to their ministers, in lieu of stipend, in part or altogether. Such a rate, not exceeding threepence in the pound on their rents, would, in most congregations, realize 100% a year, which, with the present bounty, that should, in my opinion, be raised to 100%, would be sufficient and necessary for the decent support of those valuable men. In this way the Presbyterian Church would, to all practical and useful purposes, be what I think it ought to be—a Church established by law, with the consent of the people. In the Established Church, I would propose that, wherever the communicant parishioners were sufficiently numerous, the bishop should induct, to vacant livings, curates of sufficient standing, who, within four months of a vacancy, should be recommended to them by seven-eighths of such parishioners. I should propose that, after a given term, all men connected with the administration of justice should be qualified, either by a college degree, or by having undergone a public examination, at some period of their lives, sufficient to try and attest their fitness for business, to the proper discharge of which, discrimination, accuracy, with clearness and precision of thought and expression, are essential; and to want of which all the blunders that arise may be attributed. I shall oppose any measure calculated to disturb or weaken the Protestant religion or Protestant Government of the United Kingdom.—*W. M'Mechan, Carrickfergus.*

My political principles are well known in the city. I was proposed on the occasion of the General Election in 1852, as "a staunch Freetrader, in favour of the ballot and an extended franchise; an advocate of public

economy, of retrenchment, and Customs' reform; opposed to grants of public money for religious purposes, a friend to civil and religious liberty to its fullest extent, and in favour of the admission of the Jews to Parliament." To these principles I still adhere.—*R. W. Crawford, City of London.*

I shall continue (if you do me the honour of again returning me to Parliament), to support such measures as I believe may contribute to the welfare of all classes of the community, especially by having regard to a proper economy in the national expenditure, and developing the resources of the country—by maintaining only such military and naval establishments as may be efficient in every department, and requisite to preserve the security and honour of the nation and to perpetuate peace—by rectifying abuses which exist in the Ecclesiastical Courts—by abolishing Church-rates—by supporting Parliamentary Reform, and securing the independent exercise of the elective franchise;—and I shall continue to afford an independent and honourable support to the measures of a liberal administration, as far as may be consistent with these objects.—*T. Mills, Totnes.*

I have supported the bill for the abolition of Church-rates. Whatever benefit they may produce to the Church is not proportionate to the injury they cause in keeping alive a sense of injustice among those who conscientiously dissent from the doctrine of the Establishment.—*Lord Gifford, Totnes.*

I have supported the cause of civil and religious liberty, by upholding the Protestant spirit of our institutions, both in Church and State.—*J. S. Buck, North Devon.*

My votes in Parliament are before you; they have been unbiased by interested views. I have never deviated from the principles of civil and religious liberty, which in 1852 gained for me the proud distinction of your representative. I boldly appeal to my votes as being in strict unison with those principles.—*C. S. Butler, Tower Hamlets.*

It is not necessary that I should address you at any length—my political principles are well known to you; my Parliamentary conduct and my votes are before you—it is for you to judge of them; they have been given with sincerity of purpose to uphold the Protestant religion, and the welfare and the glory of this mighty empire. To any encouragement of the Roman Catholic religion, either directly or indirectly, I have all my life been opposed.—*W. Masters Smith, West Kent.*

Though warmly attached to the Protestant Institutions of the country, it would give me sincere pleasure to see Church-rates entirely abolished; at the same time I should witness with great regret the decay of our places of Divine worship, and should give my cordial support to any measure calculated to adjust this vexed question in an equitable and satisfactory manner.—*C. Smythe Verker (Conservative) Yarmouth.*

With reference to Church-rates, I consider the present state of the law so unsatisfactory, the cause of so much irritation, and so adverse to the true interests of the Church, that unless an amicable settlement can be speedily arrived at, I should vote for their immediate and entire abolition.—*Colonel Clifford, Isle of Wight.*

I have advocated the principles of Free-trade, Legal Reform, a Revision of the Statute-book, the Legalising one Probate of a Will for all parts of the Kingdom, Economy, Retrenchment, Administrative Reform, Cheap and Expedited Postal Communication with all Countries, the Repeal of Taxes on Knowledge, Local Self-government, the Extension of Parliamentary Suffrage and Representation, Shorter Duration of Parliament, Voting by Ballot, Controlling County and other Local Taxation, the Abolition of Capital Punishment, of Church-rates, of Grants for Religious Purposes (whether Protestant or Catholic), and of Ecclesiastical Courts; the Emancipation of the Jews, the Examination of Candidates for Public Offices, the Reduction of Duty on Fire Insurances, and of the Tax on small Incomes; Equality of Civil Rights for all Classes, without Distinction of Sect or Denomination; Reform of the Universities; and, generally, I have endeavoured to advance the cause of Civil and Religious Liberty, and the principles which I avowed when I last solicited your suffrages, and of which you manifested your approval by electing me.—*G. Hadfield, Sheffield.*

The propriety of annual grants in aid of particular denominations of Christians is open to serious doubt, but I should object at the present moment to meddle with the Maynooth Grant, except as part of a scheme for the settlement of such questions.—*Sir A. Elton, Bath.*

I have voted for the Abolition of Church-rates, the repeal of the tax known as Minister's Money in Ireland, the adoption of the Vote by Ballot, and measures having for their object the Amendment of the Law of Marriage, the more effectual repression of Trading on the Sabbath, and the Diminution of Expenses and Bribery at Elections. I have always considered that no particular forms of religious opinions should ever disqualify their holders from enjoying all the advantages which an honest citizen may aspire to in this country: in accordance, therefore, with the great principle of "civil and religious liberty," I voted on repeated occasions for the admission of Jews to Parliament, and that my Dissenting fellow-subjects should be permitted to enjoy the benefits and privileges of Education in our Universities.—*G. Byng, Tavistock.*

I confess, likewise, that I am ambitious of doing some good before I retire; and there is one object I have much at heart, the relieving of Edinburgh from a burden which has long been a cause of strife and animosity—the Annuity-tax. I may not be able to accomplish it, but I will do my best endeavour; and if I do not succeed myself, I will at least lay the foundation for future success in the hands of some more fortunate representative.—*Adam Black, Edinburgh.*

I have not lost an opportunity of recording my vote against all grants from the public purse for other than secular purposes, also against the levying of Church-rates, and in favour of religious freedom, and I have endeavoured, as far as practicable, to advocate economy in the expenditure of public money.—*Sir Jno. Shelly, Westminster.*

I claim for every man the right of private judgment, and of exemption from pains, penalties, and disabilities in the conscientious exercise of that right.—*W. Hack-Wood, Reigate.*

No man would, I feel sure, dare to appeal to the electors of Lambeth who had not nailed to the mast the standard of religious liberty; I am therefore opposed

on principle to every form of grant of public money for religious purposes, and should earnestly advocate an immediate adjustment of the Church-rate question, that perennial source of bitterness and contention.—*W. Roupell, Lambeth.*

Should you confer upon me the honour of being your representative, it will be my desire to support those principles of civil and religious liberty, which have been heretofore maintained by my family in Parliament and elsewhere.—*Lord Worsley, Great Grimsby.*

To an administration that would strenuously exert themselves for the settlement of the Church-rate question I would give my hearty support. With a sincere attachment to the Church of England, and to those great Protestant principles established at the Reformation, I would gladly see erased from the Statute Book all civil disabilities on account of religious belief.—*J. M. Heathcote, Huntingdon County.*

With regard to domestic policy, I have been, during a long political life, a firm supporter of all progressive reforms of civil and religious liberty, in every shape they may assume; of education, not confined merely to the youth of the country, but extended by various institutions to the entire people. I rely more on the influence of increased information, based upon moral and religious training, for the permanence and promotion of our national greatness, than upon any other cause whatever.—*James Wilson, Devonport.*

The reform and cheapening of the law, the lightening of the public burthen, the abolition of Church-rates—these are objects to which my best attention and efforts shall be directed.—*T. M. Weguelin, Southampton.*

For myself, it is with the greatest regret I find the progress arrested of a great measure of relief, which I have for years used the greatest exertions to carry. I refer to the Bill for the Abolition of Church-rates, which has been read a first time, and stands for second reading at the end of the month.—*Sir W. Clay, Tower Hamlets.*

I am for the entire abolition of compulsory Church-rates, and shall always be found advocating the great principles of civil and religious liberty for all classes, without distinction of creed, denomination, or country. I am desirous of seeing a complete reform or abolition of the Ecclesiastical Courts, knowing, as I do, the frightful source of injustice they are to the poor man and of expense to the rich.—*W. Cox, Finsbury.*

I am an earnest advocate for the abolition of Church-rates, and for a large increase in the Parliamentary Constituency of the Empire, by an Extension of the Franchise to classes hitherto excluded. I have steadfastly opposed every attempt to extend the principle of State Religious Endowments in the Colonies or elsewhere, and have sought, at once, to increase their efficiency and mitigate their pressure at home.—*Thomas Chambers, Herford.*

I feel it, however, incumbent on me to avow, that I am strongly opposed to the endowment of the Roman Catholic College of Maynooth, as being totally at variance with the Protestant principles of this realm; and I am not the less so that Lord Palmerston has resolved to maintain that institution untouched.—*J. H. Maxwell, Tiverton.*

I need hardly assure you that I am a strong and decided upholder of sound Protestant principles, feeling well assured that in the maintenance of those principles the happiness and stability of this great empire mainly depend.—*H. Cholmondeley, South Hants.*

I am a firm supporter of the Established Church, and, in whatever position of life I may be placed, I shall do my utmost to resist any innovation which might alter the spiritual character of its ritual, or tend to impair the efficiency of its moral and religious teaching. At the same time I shall give my candid and unbiased consideration to any equitable scheme for the adjustment of the long-contested question of Church-rates.—*R. Dutton, S. Hants.*

A sincere member of the established Church, I entertain feelings of good-will to the members of other denominations; I think it an injustice to tax them for the support of places of worship they do not attend; I am satisfied that there is sufficient devotion and earnestness within the circle of the Establishment to provide ample means for the repair and maintenance of its edifices, and I would vote for the abolition of Church-rates as well upon these grounds as from a sincere conviction that their removal would tend to render the Church to which I belong more worthy of respect and more esteemed by all classes of the people.—*H. W. Schneider, Norwich.*

Thus much I can conscientiously assert: each effort I have made, each vote I have recorded, has been in unison with those principles of civil, political, and religious equality, for the advocacy of which the inhabitants of Leicester have been so long conspicuous.—*Sir Joshua Walmsley, Leicester.*

(A voice: "How about Church-rates?" and cheers.) He (Mr. Neate) was prepared to answer that question. (Hear, hear.) He satisfied himself that it was originally a personal charge, —an obligation that was imposed on those whose opinions required to be supported. It was originally a charge that was imposed by the church upon its members, and enforced by the penalty of excommunication. That was a remedy which could not be resorted to in the present state of things; but it could not alter the original nature of the charge, which was founded on community of belief, and was not a real charge attached to the land. That, however, was the legal view of the question. He had satisfied himself that that mode of levying the Church-rate must be abandoned. But, at the same time, looking at the Church of England in, in some respects, a national institution,—looking at their edifices, he thought they should be made a public charge, and be recognised as a national burden; and although he was prepared to give up the present mode of levying the Church-rate, he should do so on condition that the Church received something in the shape of compensation which would be an equivalent for the loss of this one burden upon the people.—*Mr. Neate, at Oxford.*

And now, with regard to Church-rates. ("Hear, hear," and cheers.) I confess that I should like to see that question settled for ever, for I consider that Church-rates ought long ago to have been abolished. (Cheers, and hisses.) I feel ashamed to ask Dissenters to pay for my Church. (Hear, hear.) I feel that a sort of insult is cast upon me in asking them to pay for the support of my Church. (Hear, hear.) I feel proud of my Church, and I believe that, with all its imperfections,

it is a very good Church, and I am rejoiced to see Lord Palmerston, by the bishops he is appointing, is about to reform that Church.—*Sergeant Gasee, at Oxford.*

The period has arrived when the rights of conscience demand the abolition of Church-rates, and my vote would be found recorded for their speedy extinction. I am of opinion that our Jewish fellow-subjects are unjustly debarred from the right of sitting in Parliament. I will therefore support any measure having for its object their entire emancipation. I am opposed to the endowment of any religious sect by the State.—*J. Locke, Southwark.*

Maynooth is another question on which a candidate is likely to be catechised by some constituencies. I am conscientiously opposed to secular establishments of religion, and the grant to Maynooth comes within this category. As a question of religious policy, there can, therefore, be no hesitation. But the grant is said to be an act of simple justice to those from whom an income of thirty times the amount has been withdrawn for the support of another creed. How far this claim may be said to overrule other considerations is a question of some delicacy, and I am prepared to follow the course which is adopted by so many others, and give effect to the general wishes of the constituency. On the question of Church-rates, however, there can be no such difficulty. The sooner this source of perpetual irritation is extinguished the better for the interests of religion and social harmony.—*Mr. Marhsaw, Ipswich.*

While I have voted through life for the relief of all classes of Dissenters, without distinction, from any political disabilities under which they have suffered, I yield to no man in warm attachment to the Established Church of which I am a member; but I think it essential to its safety and security in the affections of the people of this country, that, allowing a wide margin for differences of opinion on minor points, it should in its doctrines maintain a thoroughly Protestant character.—*Lord E. Bruce, Marlborough.*

I should support any measure that will fairly settle the vexed question of Church-rates. I go for religious liberty—as well as civil freedom.—*J. Taylor, Barnstaple.*

I am a Liberal—in favour of the full development of the great principles of civil and religious liberty, which have so happily become a part of our Constitution, and I will at all times do my best to uphold and extend them.—*Hon. R. Campbell, Weymouth.*

I am most anxious that all religious disabilities should be removed from the Jews, but at the same time, feel that the citizens of London require that they should not longer lose one representative in Parliament by again returning a Jew until the question is settled by the removal of the disqualifying oath now in force. The questions of education, Church-rates, prison discipline, and, above all, prevention of crime by providing suitable places of recreation and instruction for the young of all classes, and other great questions of the day, will have my most anxious attention; and I trust by my votes on these and all subjects to merit a continuance of your confidence.—*Alderman Rose, City of London.*

I am opposed generally to the payment of religious teaching by the State, for the simple reason that the State comprises the whole community, whilst its component parts are not agreed as to what kind of religious teaching shall prevail; but so long as endowment is maintained for Protestant purposes in Catholic Ireland I cannot vote for the withdrawal of the paltry pittance which is secured by Act of Parliament to the Roman Catholic College of Maynooth. For the above reason I object to the levying of Church-rates.—*W. A. Wilkinson, Lambeth.*

An outcry has been raised against me, for an obvious purpose, that I am a leveler of the churches of our land. This I deny—I would not destroy or injure a single church, but I avow my desire to correct every abuse connected with those Churches.—*W. Rees, Haverfordwest.*

NEW INDIAN BISHOPRIES.—Lord Palmerston, Mr. Vernon Smith, the President of the Board of Control, and the Chairman of the East India Company, have received from the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, the Bishop of London, and the other ecclesiastics and laymen who form the governing body of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, a memorial strongly pressing the creation, without delay, of three new Indian bishoprics—one at Agra, for the northern provinces, to be formed out of the present diocese of Calcutta; one at Lahore, for the Punjabas, to be formed out of the present diocese of Calcutta; and one for the missionary province of Tinnevelly, to be formed out of the present diocese of Madras.

REFUSAL OF BISHOPS TO CONSECRATE CEMETERIES.—A correspondence with the Secretary of State for the Home Department, as to the refusal of the Bishop of St. David's to consecrate the new cemetery for the borough of Swansea, South Wales, has been laid before Parliament and printed. It hence appears that the Lord Bishop of St. David's declined to consecrate or to license the new burial-ground or cemetery, because no conveyance for the clergyman who was to officiate in the consecrated portion of the cemetery was provided by the Burial Committee Board of Swansea. The Burial Committee unanimously decided that the Burial Board had not the power under the Act of Parliament to provide any conveyance for the clergymen officials, and also expressed an opinion that, even if they had such power, it ought not to be executed. The Bishop having refused to consecrate or license the cemetery (on the 24th of December last), and, the case being very urgent, an appeal was made to the Home-office by the vicar and churchwardens of Swansea, representing the perplexity, difficulty, and expense that would arise if the old burial-grounds of the parish were closed (as ordered by the Home-office) before a fitting place was provided for the reception of the corpses of the parishioners, and asking for a delay of the order to close them. Secretary Sir George Grey, in reply, refused to grant any extension of the time for closing the existing burial-grounds attached to the parish church (as requested by the vicar), without some assurance that the difference between the bishop and

the Burial Board was likely to be settled by some early and definite time. Sir George observed at the same time, that "the object of the Act of Parliament would be defeated if the mere refusal of a bishop to consecrate a burial-ground till some condition on which he felt it right to insist was complied with were held to be sufficient to postpone the operation of an order in Council founded on considerations of public health." It was intimated to the Home-office by the Burial Board of Swansea, on the 30th Dec., that the vicar had had nine brick vaults made "on speculation" at a new church at the Cockit, lately opened; "and as long," adds the writer of the letter, "as he (the vicar) can persuade the bishop not to consecrate or grant a licence to bury in the new ground, the more money he will be enabled to exact from the friends of persons requiring the same." There is no conveyance provided for the clergy at the Cockit, although it is three miles from the parish church, whereas the new burial-ground is only half that distance. After the 1st Jan., in short, there would be no place for interment in Swansea, unless corpses were buried in the new ground without the aid of clergy, or taken to the Cockit. The result of the controversy does not appear from the papers before us.

THE BISHOP OF NORWICH.—It is confidently reported that Dr. Hinds will resign his see, in consequence of the continued indisposition under which he labours. Dr. Hinds was appointed in 1849 to the bishopric, which is the largest in England.

THE LIBERATION OF RELIGION SOCIETY AND THE GENERAL ELECTION.—One of the most important addresses that has yet been issued at the present crisis is the address of the Religious Liberation Society. To all who feel interested in advancing the political and religious freedom of the country, it should be an important point to guard against any diminution of the Dissenting party in the House; whilst assuredly much will be done for the permanent security of all our important social and political advantages if men pledged to carry out the views enunciated by the society above-mentioned should be returned in greater numbers.

No more interesting chapter in our parliamentary history of late days can be found, than that which records the gradual formation of a rising and powerful party pledged to the destruction of those baneful and invidious distinctions which the lingering barbarism of the age yet retains in connexion with creeds. That the times change, and that we change with them, is an old-established axiom, and the great Nonconformist body affords an interesting illustration of this adage as could well be sought for. The energy that 200 years ago might have been devoted to leading a regiment of Ironsides now seeks the more congenial field of an elective contest, for modern instinct unerringly shows that the battle for the balance of religious freedom must be fought out in Parliament. As auxiliary helps in this contest, the party is wise enough to devote every necessary attention to all the modern agencies of colleges, newspapers, and clubs. Nor is the vast influence of mere money power forgotten, and such men as Lindsay, Peto, and Morley, are not merely great builders of ships and houses, who are at the same time the architects of their own fortunes, but by fighting their way to a position of wealth, they at the same time build up on a solid and strong foundation the power of the party with which their name is associated, and give activity and life to principles than can never die, but which would certainly be slower to fructify, if this extrinsic but important help were wanting.—*Edinburgh News.*

THE CONGREGATIONAL UNION COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY.—This committee met on the 5th, and closed its sitting next day. The results have not been made public, but we believe it will be found that the resolution to discontinue connexion with the magazines was adopted unanimously, and that all legal difficulties in settling the new trust have been overcome. The connexion of the Affiliated Societies with the Union will be maintained.

NEWCASTLE AND GATESHEAD RELIGIOUS FREEDOM SOCIETY.—The anniversary of this useful organisation for aiding in the extension of the principles of Voluntaryism, and affording assistance in any cases of ecclesiastical oppression, was held on Tuesday evening, last week, in the Crown Temperance Hotel, Mosley-street, Newcastle-on-Tyne. The chair was taken by the Rev. James Pringle, who opened the meeting by an effective address. After the usual report had been received, the various committees and officers for the ensuing year having been appointed, the meeting was addressed by the Rev. F. Stephens, Messrs. Wilkinson, J. L. Angus, Henry Angus, Leighton Danks, and others.

CHURCH-RATE AT MONKWEARMOUTH.—At a vestry meeting on Thursday morning, a motion to levy a Church-rate of 2d. in the pound was negatived by twenty-four against seven votes. No rate was asked for last year; but the churchwardens received by voluntary contributions over 100*l.*, and have handed over to their successors a balance of 2*s.*

CHURCH-RATES IN DROITWICH.—In this borough, a great deal of interest has of late been excited with regard to Church-rates, mainly in consequence of the persevering opposition of Messrs. Walter and John Noah, of Covercroft Salt Works. After opposing in vestry the attempt to make a rate, and polling the parish (St. Andrew's) on the question, the poll being, as we understand, prematurely closed by the churchwardens, Messrs. Noah resisted payment when called upon, especially as the rate was manifestly an illegal one. A summons having been at length issued for Thursday, the 14th inst., Messrs. Noah appeared before the magistrates, accompanied by Mr. T. Southall, of Worcester, solicitor. They succeeded in removing the jurisdiction of the court; the summons was dismissed, the rate being clearly proved to be illegal, it being dated May 15, 1856; and yet it was admitted

that the polling was not terminated before the 17th. It is hoped that Church-rates are at an end in Droitwich. Any future attempt to make a rate will be boldly, and, we doubt not, successfully resisted.

Religious Intelligence.

LANCASHIRE INDEPENDENT COLLEGE.—DR. DAVIDSON.

The following circular letter has been addressed by the Committee of the College to their constituents, on the subject of the charges lately brought against the views of Dr. Davidson:—

DEAR SIR,—Knowing that much anxiety exists among the supporters of the College, in reference to the charges which have been brought against Dr. Davidson's new work (the 2nd volume of the last edition of Horne's Introduction), the Committee beg to lay before you the following statements, which while explaining the course which they have deemed it their duty to adopt, will, they trust, secure your approval and continued confidence.

The subject was brought before the Committee, at a meeting held Nov. 24th, 1856, when the following resolutions were adopted, with Dr. Davidson's concurrence: "That this committee having had its attention directed to certain general charges brought against the views set forth by Dr. Davidson, one of the professors of the institution, in the 2nd volume of the last edition of Horne's Introduction, just published, and of which Dr. Davidson is the author, as unsound, feels it due to Dr. Davidson, as well as to the interests of the college, to ascertain the truth of these allegations, and with this view appoints a sub-committee to examine the book in question, and to report to a subsequent meeting of this committee;" and "that the following gentlemen be the sub-committee: Revs. Dr. Halley, P. Thomson, R. M. Davies, W. R. Thorburn, and J. Gwyther."

On February 16th, 1857, the report of that Sub-committee was presented, as a confidential communication, to the General Committee. It was very full, and occupied more than two hours in reading. It stated that first of all, every member of the sub-committee had read the volume through in private, marking every passage which seemed to require attention; that these passages had afterwards been discussed in the most searching manner, at several prolonged meetings, at which all the members were present; that in an interview with Dr. Davidson the most objectionable and doubtful passages were brought under his consideration, and such explanations and admissions received as considerably modified the views of the sub-committee; and that after this, the report had been prepared in a manner which secured the fullest expression of the independent judgment of every member, and had then been unanimously approved and adopted.

After noticing the extent of the work, comprising 1,100 closely printed pages; the vast variety of subjects which it embraces; the peculiar character of some of these; and the great difficulties which must have arisen from these sources, the report adduced and animadverted strongly upon many passages, which, taken by themselves, seemed to indicate very unsatisfactory views on some important doctrines of the Gospel: such as on the Trinity, human depravity, the sacrifice of Christ, justification by faith, &c., as well as upon the inspiration of Holy Scripture. Other statements, however, found in different parts of the volume, as well as the explanations given orally by Dr. Davidson, fully satisfied the sub-committee that he holds all these vital truths, and regards Holy Scriptures as inspired, an unerring authority in morality and religion, and infallible in every other important matter. The report expressed much regret at the marks of haste and incaution which appear in numerous passages; at the use in many cases of inaccurate phraseology, adapted to lead to serious misconception of the author's meanings; and also at the not unfrequent occurrence of statements, some of which are clearly contradictory, and not a few of which the sub-committee were quite unable to reconcile with the plainly expressed views of the writer. Instances illustrative of these various points were adduced in detail and carefully analysed*.

Having spoken most freely of the faults of the volume, the report stated that it contained within itself abundant materials for the correction of these faults. It further remarked, "a fair analysis of this noble work would require much more to be said of its merits than has been said of its defects." But it added: "Too much indulgence of the passion for controversy has beguiled the author into some inconsistencies. Great haste is too often apparent: and a love of paradox, peculiarly inappropriate to the gravity of such a work, has sometimes disturbed the correctness of his judgment." The report however affirmed, that, throughout the volume there appears a reverential regard for the authority of Holy Scripture, a devout and anxious desire to obtain by fair interpretation, the true meaning, and a cordial attachment to the great principles of evangelical religion most surely believed amongst us. The sub-committee then added:—

"Most gladly would we see the book revised, corrected, divested of its objectionable statements, and brought into perfect harmony with its own great principles." "Trusting that the opportunity of such a revision may soon occur, we cannot in the meantime forget what is due to the interests of the college and the reputation of its professor of Biblical literature." "We cannot but feel that something is due on his part to prevent further evils, and, if possible, to make reparation of existing divisions. Our unanimous recommendation therefore is, that the committee of the Lancashire Independent College earnestly request Dr. Davidson to prepare, as speedily as may be consistent with due care in its revision, such an explanation of parts of his book which are deemed objectionable, as may remove misunderstanding, which his own language may have occasioned, conciliate opposition, which his own haste may have provoked, make concession where concession may be justly due, and thus take the most effectual

* Examples of passages referred to in the above paragraph occur on the following pages: On the Trinity, 478, 780. Depravity, 236, 275, 302, 479, 480, 485. Sacrifice of Christ, 310, 477, 513, 864, 865. Justification by faith, 221, 281, 307, 474, 478. Inspiration and authority of Holy Scripture, 32, 109, 110, 190, 193, 194, 198, 312, 329, 330, 349, 372, 373, 376, 503, 504, 706, 1,067. Contradictory on different parts of the same page, 830 and 977.

[MARCH 18, 1857.]

means of vindicating himself from unjust and malevolent aspersions."

This report having been received for consideration, a lengthened discussion ensued. At its close the committee, without pledging itself to every sentiment contained in the said report, adopted the following resolution, without a dissentient voice: "That while this committee expresses its continued confidence in the general soundness of Dr. Davidson's theological views, its appreciation of the value of his services to the College, and its regard to him personally, it is still of opinion that explanations of several parts of his recent work are due to the constituency of the College, on account of the inaccurate language which he has there employed, and therefore earnestly requests him to afford such explanations as speedily as may be consistent with due care in its revision, and in a spirit as kind and conciliatory as the exigency of the case may require, and a due regard to his own position may allow."

Whilst the committee was preparing the above record of its proceedings, a very inaccurate report of the resolution, passed on February 16th, found its way into the public papers. The attention of the committee having been directed to it at their meeting, held March 2, the following resolution was adopted and ordered to be inserted in this circular: "That this committee expresses its great surprise and indignation at the publication, by some person unknown, of a false and injurious report of the resolution of last meeting."

Before closing this statement, justice to Dr. Davidson requires the remark that much of his volume was composed amidst great anxiety and sorrow, arising from the long illness, and the death of a much-loved son.

It needs only be added that Dr. Davidson is already engaged in the preparation of a pamphlet, in which he proposes to furnish the desired explanations, and the committee anxiously hopes that it will prove of such a character as to satisfy all reasonable persons, and remove the painful uneasiness which has been recently felt.

Signed on behalf of the Committee,
G. B. JOHNSON, Secretary.
Manchester, March 5, 1857.

ARLINGTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Tuesday last the Rev. J. Wassall, of Blockley, delivered an interesting and very instructive lecture at the above place on "Whittington and his Cat, or the Way to Grow Rich." The lecture was one of a series delivered by neighbouring ministers and friends for the benefit of the population of a secluded rural district. Each of the lectures has been very well attended, and results of a moral and mental character have shown that practical and lasting good has been effected.

BEDFORD CHAPEL, ST. PANCRAS.—The Rev. Andrew Reed, B.A., who, since his retirement from Norwich, has been temporarily engaged, in conjunction with the Messrs. Spalding, in establishing a new Congregational Church in Hendon, near Hampstead, has now undertaken the pastoral charge of Bedford Chapel, Oakley-square, Camden-town. Mr. Reed has taken this step at the request of the Congregational Chapel-Building Society, and at the unanimous call of the Church, confirmed by a largely-signed address of the congregation. The chapel is to be closed for two Sabbaths, to undergo some improvement. The Church at Hendon, which Mr. Reed leaves in a healthy and promising state, has unanimously invited the Rev. Thomas Fison, late of Romsey, to become their pastor.

BETHNAL-GREEN.—The Rev. Isaac Vale Mummery has accepted a very cordial and unanimous invitation to become the pastor of the congregation worshipping in Park Chapel, Bethnal-green, presided over for more than thirty years by his late excellent father, the Rev. Stephen Mummery. He proposes commencing his stated labours on Sunday, March 29.

EAST DEERHAM.—The Rev. G. T. Jeffreys has resigned the pastorate of the Congregational Church in this place, having accepted the charge of the Church and congregation at D'Urban, in the colony of Natal, in connexion with the Colonial Missionary Society. Mr. Jeffreys expects to proceed with his family to this encouraging and important scene of Christian labour in the course of the ensuing month.

LECTURE AT THE BAPTIST MISSION-HOUSE.—The fifth of the course of lectures, given in connexion with the Young Men's Association in aid of the Baptist Missionary Society, was delivered in the library of the Mission-house, on Friday evening last, by the Rev. W. Landels. There was a full attendance, and the chair was occupied by Mr. Charles Reed. The subject of the lecture was "The Philosophy of Missions." At the close, the treasurer (Mr. John Francis) moved, and the Rev. Thomas Field seconded, a vote of thanks to the lecturer and chairman, which was unanimously adopted, and Mr. Landels having offered a short prayer, the meeting separated. It was announced that the concluding lecture would be given next month by the Rev. Henry Allon.

SUTTON, SURREY.—In this pleasant village a small chapel was erected in 1799, by Mr. Wall. Its first preachers were the Rev. T. Lewis, late of Islington, and the Rev. J. Hudson. The building is now in a dilapidated state, and unequal to the requirements of the neighbourhood, which is rapidly increasing. (The Perpetual Investment and other land societies have laid out estates for building purposes.) For several years the Rev. J. Jacob, of Tooting, has conducted public worship in this place, and the Divine blessing has attended his efforts for the good of the people. On Tuesday evening, March 10th, the members of the little church, with friends from the neighbourhood, assembled to adopt measures for the erection of a new chapel—one more in accordance with the claims of the times and neighbourhood. Addresses were delivered by W. Hitchin, Esq., of the Bible Society, who presided, the Rev. T. F. Thomas, of Tooting, Rev. J. Roberts, of Merton, Mr. Wm. Freeman, Rev. W. Elliott, of Epsom, and W. White, Esq., of Morden Hall; a committee was formed to collect funds, &c., and £500 were promised in the course of the evening.

About 700*l.* will be required. The minister and people at Sutton desire the help of all who are interested in the progress of religious truth, in the dark and ignorant villages of the county of Surrey.

THE MISSIONARY SHIP JOHN WILLIAMS.—By letters dated 29th November, we are gratified to learn that the missionary ship, having previously visited Hobart Town, was at that time at Melbourne. The vessel, after remaining at Melbourne for a few days, was intending to proceed to Sydney, and thence to the islands of the Pacific.

THE REV. GEORGE PALMER DAVIS, B.A., late of Wandsworth, has been appointed to succeed the Rev. Dr. Piskerton in the Frankfort Agency of the British and Foreign Bible Society, and intends entering on his duties at the end of the current month.

WESTERN COLLEGE.—We have pleasure in announcing that the Rev. John M. Charlton, M.A., of Rotherham, has accepted an invitation of the committee of the Western College at Plymouth, to the theological professorship, vacant in April by the removal of the Rev. R. Alliott, LL.D., to the college at Cheshunt, and that he will commence immediately afterwards his duties at Plymouth.

Correspondence.

NON-PAROCHIAL REGISTRATION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

Sir.—I beg leave to forward to you for publication (as intelligence), or comment, the enclosed copy of a circular which has been prepared by this board to afford more specific information as to the objects proposed by the present inquiry than could be given in the advertisement which has appeared in the *Nonconformist*.

It may be of some interest to the Dissenting community to know that the Commissioners will be prepared to receive for authentication registers of burials and baptisms relating to periods subsequent to 1837 (when the Registration Act came into operation), as well as registers of an earlier date, which were not brought under the notice of the former commission upon this subject.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
JAMES T. HAMMACK, Secretary.

Somerset House, March 13, 1857.

"Non-Parochial Registers Commission, General Register Office, Somerset House, London (W.C.), 1st March, 1857.

"Sir,—Her Majesty having issued a new commission for the purpose of inquiring into the state, custody, and authenticity of non-parochial registers, I am directed by the Commissioners to make known to you the specific objects proposed by the inquiry; and these will be best explained by a brief statement of the circumstances which have led to the issue of the commission.

"In the year 1837 commissioners were appointed to inquire into the state of all registers or records (not being parochial) of births or baptisms, deaths or burials, and marriages duly solemnised, with a view to some legislative provision to ensure the safe preservation of such of them as might be found trustworthy and authentic, and to give to them full force and effect as legal evidence in judicial proceedings. A large number of the Nonconformist congregations possessed of records of the nature referred to, gladly availed themselves of the opportunity thus offered, and transmitted their registers to the Commissioners. About 7,000 register books, from upwards of 3,600 religious congregations, besides about 1,500 registers from the Society of Friends, from Dr. Williams's Library, and from other sources, were, after careful examination and inquiry, pronounced to be authentic and admissible. The Commissioners, in their report, recommended that these registers should be kept together in a secure place of deposit, under the care of the Registrar-General; that they should be then deemed to be in legal custody; that they, or certified copies of them, should be receivable as evidence in all courts of justice; and that such certified copies or extracts should be given to the public, under certain regulations, upon payment of a moderate fee.

"These several recommendations were embodied in an Act of Parliament, passed in 1840, 'For enabling Courts of Justice to admit Non-parochial Registers as evidence of Births or Baptisms, Deaths or Burials, and Marriages' (3 and 4 Vict., cap. 92); and, pursuant to its provisions, all the registers examined and certified by the former commissioners have been placed in the custody of the Registrar-General, and are now deposited in fire-proof rooms at the General Register Office, Somerset House, where searches and certified copies are granted.

"Amongst the registers thus deposited are 1,432 volumes—all kept with characteristic order and precision—which were received from the Society of Friends; they contain more than 600,000 entries, and are naturally highly valued. Since depositing them, however, a considerable number of additional registers belonging to the society, which were accidentally overlooked when the others were collected, have been discovered; and it is now desired to have them also duly authenticated and placed with the others in the custody of the Registrar-General.

"To enable the Society of Friends to accomplish this object, and at the same time to afford to other religious communities or to individuals who may be in possession of any registers of a like nature, an opportunity of securing an extension to them of benefits similar to those conferred by the act above cited, the present commission has been issued. The same general course of proceeding will be pursued as upon the former occasion; the immediate result contemplated from the Commissioners' labours being a legislative enactment to secure the safe preservation of the additional records, to render them always and readily accessible, and to give to them the same force and effect as legal evidence which have been acquired by those already deposited. The attainment of these objects is obviously important to the general interests of the community, and especially to the religious denominations to which any of the books may belong. It is, however, quite impossible that any measure can be recommended for giving increased validity and value to such records, except upon the condition of their being deposited with a public officer, from whom

authentic extracts and certificates may be easily procured.

"I am desired further to state that, so far as regards registers of baptisms and burials, it is not intended to limit the present inquiry to books kept prior to the operation of the Registration Act (6 and 7 Will. IV., cap. 86). The Commissioners will not object to receive for authentication registers of baptisms and burials (whether commencing before or after 1st July, 1837) extending over any period down to the present time. An opportunity will thus be afforded of giving effect as legal evidence to registers kept for burial grounds and cemeteries—a matter of some importance, since many of such grounds have been closed under the burial acts during the last four years, and the registers have unavoidably been left in private hands.

"The Commissioners cannot receive copies of registers where the parties have the power to send the original registers. Where the objection to parting with an original register proceeds either from its containing records of matters unconnected with registration, or from the apprehension of its being wanted for local reference, the Commissioners conceive that the objection will be obviated by a correct copy of the book being kept by the parties, which copy would be of equal utility for all purposes of reference. The Board will not object, however, to the separation, under their own inspection, of any portion not relative to registration contained in any book sent to them, and they will return such separated portion to the parties; but registers must be transmitted to them without mutilation.

"The Commissioners being required to report the result of their inquiry on or before the 1st January next, are desirous of proceeding without loss of time in the discharge of the duty entrusted to them. I am therefore directed to invite early communications in reference to any registers which may be presumed to come within the scope of their investigations; and while they venture to hope that you will take the trouble to make known, as widely as possible—especially amongst ministers, deacons, trustees, and others likely to have possession or cognizance of records of the kind referred to—the existence and objects of the commission, they reckon with confidence upon the concurrence and assistance of all parties to whom this communication shall be made known.

"I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,
JAMES T. HAMMACK, Secretary."

All communications and register books forwarded to the Commissioners should be sent through the Post Office (the postage being left unpaid) addressed as follows:—

On Her Majesty's Service.
The Non-parochial Registers Commissioners,
General Register Office,
Somerset House,
London (W.C.)

Parliamentary Proceedings.

BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS PRESENTED.

Irish Church, against Disendowment, 6.
Intoxicating Liquors, for further restricting sale, 4.
Maynooth Endowment, against, 14.
Opium Trade, for suppression, 2.
Wine Duties, for reduction, 3.
Burial Acts, for amendment, 1.
Church-rates Abolition Bill, against, 1.
Imprisonment for Debts Bill, in favour of, 1.
Income-tax, for repeal, 1.
Paper Duty, for repeal, 2.
Superannuation Act, for amendment, 5.
Oath of Abjuration, for repeal, 1.
Guano, for obtaining supply, 1.
Diseased Cattle, for preventing importation, 1.
Tea and Sugar, against proposed scale of duties, 1.

BILLS READ A FIRST TIME.

Racehorse Duty Act Amendment Bill.
Pauper Maintenance Bill.
Cinque Ports Act Amendment Bill.
Mutiny Bill.
Marine Mutiny Bill.
Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill.
Mr. Speaker's Retirement Bill.
Exchequer Bills (£1,049,700). Bill.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Bill.
Customs Duties Bill.
Indemnity Bill.
Copyhold and Inclosure Commissions, &c., Bill.
Municipal Corporations Act Amendment Bill [withdrawn].
Racehorse, &c., Bill.
Pauper Maintenance Bill.
Cinque Ports, &c., Bill.
Mr. Speaker's Retirement Bill.
Exchequer Bills, &c., Bill.
Appropriation Bill.

BILLS READ A THIRD TIME.

Income-tax Bill.
Extra-Parochial Places Bill.
Indemnity Bill.
Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Bill.
Copyhold, &c., Bill.
Customs Duties Bill.
Racehorse, &c., Bill.
Cinque Ports, &c., Bill.
Pauper Maintenance Bill.

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

Income-tax Bill.
Extra-Parochial Places Bill.
Racehorse, &c., Bill.
Cinque Ports, &c., Bill.
Pauper Maintenance Bill.
Customs Duties Bill.
Extra-Parochial Places Bill.
Indemnity Bill.
Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Bill.
Copyhold, &c., Bill.
Mutiny Bill.
Marine Mutiny Bill.

DEBATES.

ECCLESIASTICAL CORPORATIONS BILL.

In the House of Commons, on Wednesday, on the order for the second reading of the Ecclesiastical Corporations Bill, the Marquis of BLANDFORD, in announcing his intention to withdraw the bill, explained briefly its general objects—namely, first, to vest the property of Ecclesiastical Corporations in the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners; secondly, to make ulterior arrangements for the application of the property, when so transferred, to the providing and

increasing endowments. As objections were entertained, he said, to leaving the property in the hands of the Commissioners, he was ready to reconsider the measure, and see whether he could meet the views of those who objected so to leave the property.

After some remarks by Mr. E. DENISON and Mr. WALPOLE on the subject of the Ecclesiastical Commission, the order was discharged.

THE EDUCATIONAL GRANTS.

The House then went into Committee of Supply, and on the vote of 1,553,000*l.* on account, to defray the charge of certain civil services to the 31st March, 1858, Sir J. PAKINGTON expressed his entire concurrence with Mr. Gladstone, in his very strong objection to the growing amount of these annual votes for education, and more especially with respect to the manner in which they were applied. If allowed to go on they would soon amount to a million instead of half-a-million, as at present. He should be able to show that these annual and growing grants for education involve a wasteful and extravagant expenditure of public money without any adequate benefit to the country.

Sir G. GREY regretted that Sir John had taken such an opportunity of expressing so decided and unfavourable an opinion to the present mode of subsidising schools. It was, he said, only a question between this method and Sir John's own proposal.

I have on former occasions expressed my sense of the valuable exertions of the right honourable baronet in the cause of education, but I think, judging from the feeling expressed in the country and in this House, Her Majesty's Government would not have acted wisely or judiciously in proposing to Parliament, during the present session, any bill for the establishment of what is called a general system of national education, superseding the system now in force. In the bill which the right honourable baronet intimates his intention of proposing to the next Parliament—

Sir J. PAKINGTON—No; I did not express such an intention.

Sir G. GREY: Well, the right honourable gentleman proposes to bring the subject under the consideration of the House next session, and we shall then have to decide between the two systems. I differ from him in thinking that the parliamentary grants have been administered in a manner which has not tended to promote education.

Mr. HENLEY expressed his concurrence in the observations of the Right Hon. Home Secretary. It seemed impossible, owing to the religious differences that prevailed, to establish any general system of education which would not be confined to secular teaching; but the great advantage of the present system was that it afforded assistance to persons of all religious creeds to train up children in their own tenets.

Mr. W. EWART believed they would ultimately have to adopt a system of education similar to that which existed in the United States and in Scotland, namely, a national system, supported by voluntary rates. (Hear, hear.) He would suggest to the Government whether, without in any degree interfering with the existing scheme, they might not, by a short bill, establish an educational test by requiring that a certificate of progress in education should be obtained from a proper authority before children under a certain age were allowed to be employed in labour.

Mr. A. PELLATT preferred, on pecuniary considerations, the present system of parliamentary grants, increasing about 10,000*l.* a year, to the plan of the right honourable gentleman the member for Droitwich.

Upon a vote of 1,510,000*l.* on account of the Revenue Department, Sir H. WILLOUGHBY remarked upon the increase of salaries, which, though small in detail, amounted to 15,000*l.* in the aggregate. Mr. WILSON said they must make up their minds to a gradual and considerable annual increase in the Customs' Department.

RELATIONS WITH CHINA.

In the Lords, on Thursday, the Earl of ELLENBOROUGH moved for returns respecting the observance of the supplemental treaty by the British. As we are so strict with the Chinese, it behoves us to ascertain whether we have fulfilled our obligations to them. Having explained his object in moving for the returns, Lord Ellenborough volunteered a good deal of advice to the Government with regard to the conduct of the war. He complained that military and naval reinforcements had not been sent out earlier; and objected to the Government plan of carrying on operations by European troops alone. He was afraid they would arrive at the most unhealthy season of the year, and that sickness would be fatal to the army. It is said Government intends to do what was done in 1842 and send force to Nanking: that would not embarrass the Chinese Government, but it might assist the Emperor in turning out the rebels. The operations should be confined to Canton.

He heard with very great regret that there was an intention of sending out a great plenipotentiary—some very important person in the confidence of the Government, who was to go with some person on the part of France, and some person probably on the part of the United States—to exact from the Chinese Government some concessions, which we have no pretence for demanding. He objected to that, not only because it would be most unworthy to take advantage of a supposed period of difficulty to require concessions from the Chinese Government for which there is no pretence, but because he deprecated any conjoint operations and any conjoint negotiations. We have had enough of both. We have seen the inconvenient manner in which conjoint operations affect the character of our arms and the result of our negotiations, and he most earnestly trusted, that, whatever the Government might determine on doing, they would do it by themselves; that they would exactly those terms to which they thought, as Englishmen, we were entitled, and that, having obtained those terms, they would retire from the conflict. (Cheers.)

Lord PANMURE said that the policy of the Government in the first instance would be to bring affairs to

a satisfactory conclusion in a peaceful manner. But should the Chinese Emperor refuse to grant the reasonable terms that Government would demand, then we shall not stop until we have obtained them. It is therefore intended to send four regiments, under orders and ready to sail for India, to China. The transports that will take out the troops will serve as barracks. The heads of the commissariat, the medical and store department, will arrive long in advance of the troops; and orders have been given to send adequate supplies to China. The war will be confined to Canton. The reason why it will be conducted by European troops alone is, that great difficulties arise from the admixture of forces. In the last war, during the hot season the native Indian troops were able to do duty, while the British soldiers failed and died; but directly the cold weather set in the Indian soldiers became utterly useless, while the English recovered their health.

Earl GREY complained that the despatches brought by the last mail had not been produced.

The Earl of CLARENDRON said that there was no objection to produce them. They contain nothing not already known. In reply to Lord Ellenborough, he said that he had no means of knowing anything about the passes granted with reference to the treaty, or what led to the adoption of the article respecting smuggling. It was perfectly manifest that the smuggling was connived at and shared in by the Chinese authorities. The result was, that Lord Palmerston, who was then at the head of foreign affairs, sent out a long despatch reviewing all that had been done, stating the terms of the treaty, and adding that if the Chinese would not collect their own revenue and assist in carrying out the terms of the treaty, it was impossible for this country to give effect to its provisions, seeing that we had never had their co-operation in carrying it out. Notice was given to the Chinese authorities to that effect; but the Chinese Commissioner returned a very vague answer intimating that he was not aware that any smuggling had taken place. That was the position in which the matter had remained since 1851, and since 1851 there had been no despatches on the subject.

Motion agreed to.

THE CRIMEAN COMMISSIONERS.

Early on Thursday evening, Mr. J. EWART inquired whether the Government intended to make any further recognition of the services of Sir John M'Neill and Colonel Tulloch in the Crimea.

Lord PALMERSTON answered, that the Government had made what he considered to be an ample recognition of the merit of these services; and that "the Crown had done all it could properly be advised to do."

Immediately afterwards, a motion was made that the House should go into Committee of Supply. Mr. PALK then rose, and with a long preface, including an account of the sufferings of the troops in the Crimea, the appointment of Mr. Roe buck's Committee, of the Crimean Commission, and of the inquiry at Chelsea, moved the following resolutions:

That Sir John M'Neill and Colonel Tulloch ably fulfilled the duty intrusted to them of inquiring into the arrangement and management of the Commissariat department; that the evidence in their report proves, that in the months of December 1854 and January 1855 the sufferings of the army must have been intense, and that great mortality was occasioned by over-work and exposure, and want of food and clothing; that the examinations into this statement by the Board of General Officers materially support the conclusions arrived at by the Commissioners as to the want of organisation in the Quartermaster-General's, Commissariat, and Transport services; that it appears to this House that from the report of the Board this inefficiency must be attributed to the imperfect arrangement or conduct of those departments.

Sir JAMES FERGUSON seconded the motion. Mr. BLACK urged the claims of the Commissioners; and trusted that Lord Palmerston would break down the invisible fences which prevented a due recognition of their services.

Lord PALMERSTON treated Mr. Palk's motion as an "anachronism." His speech would have been in point two years ago. All the evils he described were remedied on the spot. With regard to the Commissioners, they did their work exceedingly well, but they went out in April and returned in July. They suggested very material alterations while they were there; yet in so far as their report furnished the Government at home with the elements of better arrangements, those arrangements had already been carried out, many important improvements having taken place before the Commissioners returned. Moreover, they were not the only Commissioners. There was a Medical Commission, consisting of Dr. Sutherland, Dr. Gavin, who unfortunately lost his life, and Mr. Rawlinson, an engineer, who was wounded in an action in which he had unnecessarily placed himself. He was bound to say, without disparagement to Sir John M'Neill and Colonel Tulloch, that the Medical Commissioners conferred greater advantages upon the public at home and upon the army in the Crimea than it was possible for them to accomplish." Having defended the appointment of the Chelsea Board, Lord Palmerston said he could not consent to the motion. It would be ungenerous to censure certain officers after the whole subject had passed into the domain of history.

General PEEL vindicated the Chelsea Board, of which he was a member, and urged that Mr. Palk, in his speech as well as in his resolutions, had cast undeserved imputations. The services of the Commissioners, in his opinion, had been somewhat overrated.

Mr. S. HERBERT said his first reflection upon reading the resolutions was regret at questions being reopened over which a veil of oblivion should be thrown. He admitted that the Government of which he was a member had been to blame for attempting too much. With respect to the Commissioners, the question was, had they executed an invidious duty

ably, and had the Crown marked in an unmistakable manner its sense of their services? He was of opinion that those services were important, and that the Commissioners had not received justice; and he proposed that all the resolutions should be withdrawn except the first, which should be incorporated with the latter part of an amendment of which notice had been given by Mr. J. Ewart (but which he could not move in point of form), so that the resolution would stand thus:

That Sir John M'Neill and Colonel Tulloch ably fulfilled the duty intrusted to them of inquiring into the arrangement and management of the Commissariat Department, and, considering the able services rendered by them and the high testimony in their favour by Her Majesty's Government, that an humble address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that some especial mark of approbation be conferred upon them.

I confess that I entertain strong feelings upon this subject. It is by no means easy to find gentlemen who will make a report which by implication affects persons of great standing and of high rank; and if you wish in future to have true and faithful reports, you must show your appreciation of men who are willing rather to encounter obloquy than to conceal or gloss over that which they ought in duty to make known—(loud cheers)—and I must say, that, looking at the services which have been rendered by these gentlemen, it does not appear to me that they have received justice at our hands. (Much cheering.)

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON, expressing a strong feeling that the services of the Commissioners had not been acknowledged with promptitude and generosity, urged Mr. Palk to adopt Mr. Herbert's suggestion. Mr. J. EWART also expressed his approval of Mr. Herbert's proposal.

Mr. PALK accepted the amended resolution; and it was put amid loud cries of "Divide!" Lord PALMERSTON then said, that he would not stand between the generous feelings of the House and the accomplishment of its wishes:

Nobody more heartily desires than I do that the services of these two gentlemen should be recognised. I did certainly think that the offer made to them was the more natural and appropriate acknowledgment of services of that description; but, at the same time, if the House is of a different opinion, I for one shall not go to a division. (Cheers.)

The question was then put, and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to without a division.

THE ARMY ESTIMATES.

The House then went into a Committee of Supply on the Army Estimates, when Mr. F. PEEL said, the money votes for these estimates were on account for four months only, and, as the whole votes would come before the ensuing Parliament, it would be more convenient not to anticipate discussion and explanations upon the money votes. The case was different with the number of men, which must be voted at once—namely, 126,796 men, being a reduction of 119,920 upon the vote of last year, which was for 246,716 men, but as the number of men voted had not been raised, the real reduction was considerably less. It had been determined to retain 9,000 men who would have been otherwise discharged, and to suspend recruiting for some months, which would enable them gradually to absorb these men.

Much talk ensued on many points of minor interest; and a number of votes on account were agreed to.

RETIREMENT OF THE SPEAKER.

Lord PALMERSTON read the reply of Her Majesty to the address of the House, voted on Tuesday, signifying Her Majesty's intention to confer some signal mark of her royal favour upon the Speaker. He gave notice that he should move on Friday that the House should go into committee to consider the message. The House accordingly, at a very short sitting on Friday, went into committee, Lord Monck in the chair; and Lord Palmerston moved that an annuity of 4,000*l.* per annum be granted to Her Majesty wherewith to pension Mr. Speaker on his retirement from the chair, and that the pension should take effect from that period. Agreed to *non. con.*

THE TREATY OF PEACE WITH PERSIA.

On Friday, in the House of Lords, the Earl of CLANRICARDE moved for some correspondence connected with the Persian war. The Earl of MALMESBURY complained that no information respecting the origin of the quarrel with Persia had been presented to Parliament.

The Earl of CLARENDRON gave an outline of the provisions of the new treaty. He said, that a peace was not signed at Constantinople was not the fault of Lord Stratford: the Persian Ambassador declined to assent to the terms then proposed without consulting his Government; he asked the British Government to suspend operations in the meantime, but that was impossible as orders had gone out long before. When Ferukh Khan arrived at Paris, he solicited an interview with Lord Cowley, stating that he had full powers to negotiate a peace: as we had no desire to humiliate Persia, no personal objects to gain, Lord Cowley was instructed to listen to his demands and examine his powers. The powers were found to be ample.

A treaty has now been concluded, and will, I hope, be ratified in a shorter space of time than the noble earl seems to think will elapse, but in the meantime I have no hesitation in informing the House what are exactly the terms which have been agreed upon. They are these—that all Persian troops and authorities shall withdraw from Herat and every part of Afghanistan within three months of the conclusion of the treaty; that the Shah renounces all claim of sovereignty over Herat and Afghanistan; that he will abstain from all interference in their internal affairs, and recognises the independence of both Herat and Afghanistan. In the event of any difficulties arising between Persia and Herat or Afghanistan the Persian Government is to have recourse to the good offices of England before resorting to acts of war, and England on her part engages to use her best efforts to effect a settlement of any such differences in a manner honourable and satisfactory to Persia.

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The Shah also engages that if it shall be necessary for him to repel aggression from Afghanistan, he will not make any use of the hostilities in which he may engage for that purpose for any other object, and that as soon as he attains his object, and immediate satisfaction has been given, he will withdraw within his own frontier. Again, the treaty of commerce we had with Persia was by no means so satisfactory as the treaties made by Russia and France with Persia; and it is now stipulated that all our commercial relations and our arrangements in reference to consular appointments shall be placed on the footing of the most favoured nations. It is also stipulated that Mr. Murray, on his return to Teheran, shall be received with certain ceremonies which have been agreed to by the negotiators. There is likewise another stipulation in this treaty which I think will go far to put an end to that fruitful source of difference which has so long existed not only in Persia, but throughout the East—I mean the system of giving protection to the native subjects of a foreign State. (Hear, hear.) That, I say, has been a constant source of quarrel and dispute, not only in Persia, but throughout the East. I took the liberty, with reference to our future relations with Turkey, to bring that question before the Congress in Paris. It was well received there by the representatives of the different Powers, and they all undertook to review the present system and endeavour to place it on a better footing. We have introduced a similar clause into our treaty with Persia, and we engage no longer to protect the subjects of the State, except those in the immediate service of the embassy or the consulate. (Hear, hear.) I hope and believe that other foreign Powers will engage to do the same thing; but, at any rate, England in that, as in other matters, will now be placed on the footing of the most favoured nations. I have no reason to doubt that Russia and France will consent to a stipulation of this kind, which will do more than anything else to remove this cause of difference. (Hear, hear.) We have likewise entered into a stipulation on the subject of the slave trade. A very considerable slave trade is carried on in the Persian Gulf; our present treaty with Persia on that subject ends in 1862, and we have engaged that it shall be prolonged for ten years more from the date at which it would expire, as matters would otherwise have stood. It is also stipulated that hostilities are to cease immediately on the exchange of ratifications, and that our troops are to be withdrawn from Persia immediately that the Persian troops are withdrawn from Herat. Ferukh Khan has sent letters to the Persian commander near Bushire, to inform him of the negotiations and of the treaty, and to invite him to take part in the proposed armistice, and similar instructions have been forwarded to General Outram. A general amnesty is to be published in favour of all persons who may have taken part with or in any way assisted our troops in Persia.

In reply to a further question from Lord Malmesbury, Lord CLARENDOX said that the Government had not sought to obtain any stipulation with regard to coaling-stations in the Persian Gulf.

The Earl of ELLENBOROUGH said it was the duty of the Indian Government to go to war with Persia when that power seized Herat, the gate of India: it would have been its duty to do so even had there been no treaty. He dilated on the danger to India from the designs of Russia, and contended that the safety of India does not depend on civil improvements, but on the maintenance of a well-disciplined and well-commanded army. He imputed the Persian and Chinese wars to "two bad appointments"—those of Mr. Murray and Sir John Bowring.

The Earl of CLARENDOX said that Mr. Murray had been appointed precisely because he had shown a fitness for dealing with Orientals. Three months after his arrival in Teheran, he had been able to converse and conduct his interviews with the Shah in the Persian language.

After some remarks on Indian finance from the Earl of ALBEMARLE, the motion was agreed to.

In the House of Commons, Lord PALMERSTON, in replying to Sir A. Campbell, made a brief statement. Mr. LAYARD lamented the effects of the operations in the Persian Gulf, which he said had converted a friendly tribe into blood enemies.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

In the Lords on Monday, on the motion for the second reading of the Income-tax Bill, the Earl of DERBY rose, pursuant to notice, to call attention to the circumstances under which the present appeal is made to the country. After referring to and regretting the position of financial affairs, which he thought must result in the Government having to meet a deficiency of no less than 6,500,000*l.* in 1858, he said that nothing but urgent and systematic economy could avail us. On the army and navy but small reductions could be made, but the Miscellaneous Estimates had been swelled to a formidable amount by the extravagance of Parliaments, and on those much saving might be effected. The system of economy on which the country must mainly depend was, however, after all, its policy. The Government must substitute a reasonable, conciliatory spirit for a tone of braggadocio and menace—they must prepare not to meddle with the internal concerns of any nation, nor to use a language of threat and intimidation to Powers which, even though the weakest were still too proud to listen to it. With such a system, indeed, might the Government keep down the expenditure of the army; but if, on the contrary, it adopted the other dangerous principle, and if the discretion or indiscretion of officials was to commit the country to a war, they must give up, once for all, the idea of economy, arm themselves *cap-à-pie*, and prepare to meet all comers at all times. Referring to the recent decision come to by the House of Commons with regard to the affairs of China, Lord Derby denied that the Government had any just cause for complaint at the steps which had been taken, or that any party or parties had been actuated by the motive of embarrassing Her Majesty's Government. The papers which had been laid before Parliament had been given to them solely with a view of enabling them to come to some decision on the question. It was not Parliament which had forced

Ministers to take on themselves the responsibility of their subordinates' conduct; it was Ministers who had assumed it voluntarily. Had the Government, when the papers were laid before Parliament, announced then that they intended to do what they had done since, and that they would send out a Plenipotentiary to inquire into the management of affairs at Canton, little more would have been heard from Parliament on the subject. But, not doing this, when members most reluctantly but conscientiously voted as they had done on the recent decision of the House of Commons, there arose the cry of unnatural coalition and unfair combination. That charge was a gross calumny, and he repelled it as such. Both himself and the party that acted with him were guiltless in word and deed of having given any just ground for such an imputation. His lordship, having given this solemn denial, then entered into a long explanation as to what he believed had been the course taken in the House of Commons by the various political parties which had voted in favour of Mr. Cobden's motion, and said that the mere fact of that motion having been brought forward by Mr. Cobden indisposed some members of the Conservative party to act in support of it at all. Not long ago, when the Government opposed Mr. Locke King's motion, it only commanded a miserable attendance of thirty-one followers, of which number twenty-one were officials. The Conservative party, governed only by their principles, came to Lord Palmerston's assistance, placed him in a majority of thirteen, and saved him from the fate of Acton—that of being devoured by his own hounds. That was the conduct of the Conservatives on that occasion, though it was the fashion now to accuse them of coalition and combination. After a brief allusion to the episcopal bench, on which Lord Derby expressed his regret that the names of some right reverend prelates should be sounded by parties in the Church as a proof of sectarian bias, he proceeded to refer to foreign affairs, condemning some maritime concessions made by Lord Palmerston during the Conferences at Paris, and also most strongly the course taken in the Neapolitan affair. He professed his utter ignorance of the policy which the country was to secure by supporting Lord Palmerston. He thought it was difficult to recognise that Minister amid the many attributes, all more or less inconsistent with each other, ascribed to him by his various supporters, and he even believed, out of the many portraits, Lord Palmerston would have great difficulty in recognising himself. But that for which Lord Derby most condemned him was the ease with which he yielded up his convictions on the least external pressure, giving as instances the way in which the question of the tea duties had been treated, and his conduct with regard to Sir John McNeill and Colonel Tulloch. In conclusion, Lord Derby said that, if Lord Palmerston adhered to a conciliatory policy abroad and acted firmly in resisting uncalled-for innovations at home, he would find no warmer or more consistent supporters than the much abused and vilified Conservative party. But if he pursued a contrary course of action, he hoped and believed that the Conservatives would be strong enough to save him from his own supporters and to check him in his downward course.

Earl GRANVILLE justified the Ministry, both in supporting their subordinates against the censure of the Legislature, and in dissolving Parliament when that censure had been voted by a majority in the House of Commons. He retorted Lord Derby's charge by advertizing to his own conduct when Prime Minister, and declared, on behalf of the present Government, that they were not only willing but determined to pursue a course of progressive reform. The noble lord proceeded to comment upon the incidents which had given rise to the impression of a political combination against the Government in the recent vote, and then went on to vindicate the ministerial career of Lord Palmerston. He expressed a sanguine expectation that the present Ministers would obtain increased support in the Legislature by the result of the approaching elections.

The Earl of MALMESBURY complained of this reiteration of the charge of coalition, after the denial given by Lord Derby. He renewed that denial on his own account.

The Earl of HARDWICKE also repudiated that allegation.

The motion was then agreed to, and the bill passed a second reading.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The House of Commons sat a short time on Friday to transact some necessary business connected with the retirement of the Speaker; and to read the Mutiny Bills a first time. There were also very brief sittings both on Saturday and Monday.

The Earl of ALBEMARLE postponed his motion with reference to torture in Bengal until next Parliament.

On Friday, Lord CAMPBELL gave notice that, owing to the impending dissolution of Parliament, he did not propose to proceed any further with the committee for inquiring into the freedom of reports.

The order for the second reading of Mr. Pellatt's Imprisonment for Debt, &c. Bill has been discharged.

In the House of Commons on Monday, replying to Sir D. Norreys, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER stated that the Government had determined to co-operate in the establishment of a telegraphic line of communication with India by the route of Seleucia and the Persian Gulf.

In answer to Sir H. Willoughby, Mr. LABOUCHERE stated that the last accounts represent Canton and the other Chinese ports to be in a state of complete tranquillity.

The CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER, in reply to a question said that, the report of the Civil Service Superannuation Commissioners would be ready before Easter. The commissioners had, in accordance with

the recommendation of the select committee of last session, called for a report from eminent actuaries upon this subject.

LORD PALMERSTON AND PUBLIC OPINION.

On Friday afternoon, at two o'clock, a very large meeting was held in the Guildhall, "for the purpose of considering the decision recently come to by the House of Commons relative to the affairs at Canton, and to express its high confidence in Her Majesty's Government." Long before the hour of meeting this vast hall was densely crowded with an excited multitude, who appeared to entertain the most opposite views respecting the merits of Lord Palmerston's Government. A number of "roughs," alias "unemployed working men," occupied the space in front of the platform, and prefaced the proceedings by singing the "Marseillaise," "Rule Britannia," and "Cheer, boys, cheer," in a most unmusical manner. Those who were at the far west end, under Gog and Magog, could barely hear, and hence arose much confusion and irregular volleys of cheers. The Lord Mayor took the chair about two o'clock.

The first resolution was moved by Mr. Raikes Currie, who compressed the pith of the subject before the meeting into a small compass and a very intelligible form. He described Sir John Bowring as "a man of the people," the pupil of Bentham, a member of the Peace party, a most intelligent and forbearing man. The main offence of Government was supporting him in a difficult position far from home. The Tories, taking advantage of that juncture, with Mr. Gladstone and the Peelites, had coalesced to attack Lord Palmerston; and the question was, would the country assist in overthrowing the Government to have Lord Derby? Mr. Currie moved the following resolution:

That Lord Palmerston, having undertaken the government of this country under circumstances of extreme difficulty, and in the crisis of a great war, which he successfully carried to the issue of an honourable peace, is entitled to the thanks of the country; and having by an adverse vote of the House of Commons been in fact censured for his policy in reference to the proceedings at Canton, this meeting feels called upon to express its conviction that from the position of affairs in China and the past proceedings there, no other course was fairly open to a British statesman, or was compatible with safety to the property and lives of our fellow-countrymen in that quarter and with the honour and dignity of the nation.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. John Dillon, who enforced two points. The question now is—not Bowring, but Palmerston; not Yoh, but Derby. If the Liberal want reform, their course should be to send a large reforming majority, and then Palmerston would be a Reformer.

Mr. S. Morley (who, on coming forward, was much cheered), intimated that it was not his intention to discuss the China question, a much more important one being left for consideration. The question for the meeting to consider was one of progress or no progress. (Hear, hear). The country was in a very critical position, and it was the duty of the people to tell Lord Palmerston that they would no longer be bamboozled. (Loud cheers.) He reminded them that they had a home policy, as well as a foreign policy, and must not allow the Government any longer quite to forget the former. (Hear, hear). He called to their recollection how the official system of England broke down during the Russian war, by which the honour of England had been much tarnished. (Hear, hear.) Lord Palmerston was connected with the Government at that time, and was not therefore free from blame. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. Morley) appealed to them on behalf of the broken hearts and desolate homes which had resulted from the mismanagement of unprincipled men during the late war. (Uproar and applause.) Let them remember that of the 30,000 brave men who fell in the Crimea, no less than 20,000 died of disease resulting from cold and starvation—"Shame"—and at a time too when Balaklava was full to overflowing with everything that could add to the comforts of the army. (Cheers.) It might be said that it was an oft-told tale; but the incompetency of public officials could not too often be brought forward. (Cheers.) Corruption in the governing classes was as rampant as ever; and if the people were to support Lord Palmerston he must be faithful to them. (Cheers.) But he warned them against putting any confidence in him. He had been long tried, and had never done anything for the people, and the latest instance of his ingratitude was to be found in his conduct towards Sir J. McNeill and Colonel Tulloch, two men of unimpeachable character and of vast ability—who did their duty in bringing to light the mismanagement of the Government officers, but were deserted and overthrown by Lord Palmerston, because they fearlessly exposed the actions of such men as Lord Cardigan and Lord Lucan. (Cheers and interruption.) He trusted the Liberals of England would not be deceived by the cry of "Palmerston for ever," and allow persons to be drifted into Parliament under that cry, who would deceive them as Lord Palmerston had done. (Hear, hear.) His lordship had treated contemptuously every attempt to obtain reform, no matter how small the demand was, and, looking at the antecedents of the noble lord, he contended there was nothing in them to justify the meeting in reposing confidence in him. (Loud cheers.) He concluded by moving the following amendment:

That the citizens of London in public meeting assembled, while cheerfully recognising the claims of Lord Palmerston to the gratitude of the country for the energy and ability displayed in bringing the war with Russia to a successful close, and while determined to support only a Liberal Administration, desire to place on record their conviction that no Government ought to retain the public confidence which does not steadily prosecute a domestic policy, embodying the desires of the people for social and political progress, and promptly and firmly grapple with those administrative evils, the calamitous powers of which the late war so powerfully disclosed.

The amendment was seconded by Mr. J. P. Gassiot;

opposed by Alderman Rose. Mr. Edwin James, Q.C., followed on the same side, with a melodramatic eulogy of Lord Palmerston. The amendment was then put to the vote. The *Times* says only about 150 hands were held up in its favour. The *Daily News* says: "The Lord Mayor then put the resolution and the amendment to the meeting, when the resolution was carried by a majority, but by no means a large one, the show of hands for Mr. S. Morley's amendment being very numerous." A friend who was in the gallery states that the vote was in favour of the original resolution in the proportion of five to four.

Mr. R. W. Crawford proposed a resolution to the effect that a committee should be appointed to draw up an address embodying the spirit of the foregoing resolution, and that the Lord Mayor should be authorised to sign it on behalf of the meeting, and present it to Lord Palmerston. Mr. J. C. Lawrence seconded the proposition, which was carried unanimously.

Sir J. Duke proposed, and Mr. H. Waithman seconded, a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor, for his lordship's readiness in calling the meeting, and for his ability in presiding over it. The motion was carried with enthusiasm.

The address was presented to Lord Palmerston on Monday, by the Lord Mayor and an influential deputation. His lordship said that the Government had thought it right to protect the servants of the Crown in China in the course they had adopted, from a conviction that had any other Ministry been in power they would have acted in a precisely similar manner. The Government, in consequence of the adverse vote referred to, had thought it necessary to appeal to the country, and he was proud to hear that a city possessing so great and so many interests as the city of London should have thus testified its approbation of the conduct of the Government. The deputation then withdrew.

At a large meeting, held on Wednesday night at Huddersfield, a motion expressing confidence in Lord Palmerston's Government was lost, and the following amendment was carried by a decisive majority: "That this meeting cannot express confidence in Lord Palmerston, because he is opposed to Reform, and is a determined opponent of the Ballot."

Lord Palmerston and Her Majesty's Ministers on Thursday intimated their acceptance of an invitation from the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, to partake of a banquet at the Mansion House on Friday next. Sir B. Hall, at the Marylebone meeting on Monday, said he believed another great fact would prove on Friday next the confidence placed in Lord Palmerston. He believed that from the moment he arrived at Temple-bar, and throughout the route to the Mansion-house, he would be received with the cheers of the people.

On Monday evening, a public meeting was held at the Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields, to consider the policy of the Chinese and Persian wars. The great room was literally crammed long before the hour (seven o'clock) appointed for the business of the meeting to commence. In the absence of Mr. Roebuck, who was expected to preside, Mr. William Simpson took the chair. Mr. Layard, who was the first speaker, entered into a long statement of the facts, which are already well known to the public, respecting the attack by the Chinese on the vessel Arrow, and of all the circumstances that followed that attack; he also dwelt upon the despatches of Sir J. Bowring, and said that if such things as they contained were not on record, no one would have dared to suppose that any man living would have written them. By the unjustifiable proceedings of Sir John Bowring, the representative of the Queen of England, they had destroyed a great city, stopped a great trade, killed thousands of innocent men, and subjected not only the people of this country to an additional burden of taxation, but the suffering people of India also, from whom taxes were actually raised by torture.

Could he and his friends, as independent members of the House of Commons, give their sanction to such a war? (Cries of "No," and cheers.) What did the Government tell them? That the war was made in consequence of a great many insults offered to this country by the Chinese; but those insults were to a great extent imaginary, and the greater part of the insults, instead of being from the Chinese to Europeans, were from Europeans to the Chinese. He believed there would have been very few members in the House of Commons who would not have supported the Government if they had come down to the House and said,—"Sir J. Bowring has violated his instructions; he has gone to war upon insufficient grounds; however, we are at war, the Chinese for a long time have been violating their treaty with us—we shall recall Sir J. Bowring—(cries of 'No, no,' 'Yes, yes')—and thus we shall show to the world that the British Government and British Parliament will not endorse that which is not true; but we come to you and say this war now is necessary, we are in it and we must carry it on in order to escape from it with honour to this country, and we therefore call upon you to support us." He believed that if the Government had made that appeal to Parliament they would have had a majority. At a private meeting of Lord Palmerston's friends they urged him to pursue that course; but he did not; he defied the House of Commons, and the result was, he was in a minority. (Cheers.) And what had he since done? Had he supported Sir John Bowring? No; but he complained of a coalition between the Liberals and the Peelites. Why? he himself had disavowed Sir John Bowring, and had gone to two Peelites to send them out to Hong Kong to take Sir John Bowring's place. How could he have the face to turn round upon those who had given him that very same advice? (Cheers.) Surely, if it were good now it was good then, and if it were bad then it was bad now. (Cheers.)

Mr. Cobden made an able and telling speech on the Chinese question. The following is the concluding portion:—

We are not now engaged in a war with Russia. That was a fair stand-up fight, where you had enemies that proved your courage; but now we are at war with a

feeble nation, a most remarkable people, a people who though they have carried civilisation to a great height, have not attained the art of war. You all know that this nation is at your feet. Will the people of this country, then, with America, France, Germany, and Austria looking at us, show a less sense of justice, a less sense of responsibility and fear of bloodshed, than a majority of the House of Commons? Because, let me tell you that in proportion as we show ourselves acting unjustly towards the weak, just in proportion will be our difficulties in dealing with the strong. (Cheers.) I want the people of this country to hold a proud attitude before all the world. I look upon the honour of England as something not to be maintained by blustering expeditions in the Persian Gulf or in the river of Canton; but I look upon the honour of England as being maintained by ever holding a course of justice, whether in dealing with the mighty or with the weak. (Cheers.) I may here tell you, in a parenthesis, that we applied for the use of Exeter Hall. It is the largest room that can be got, and I wished to test the truth of what we read in the *Times*, that there is such a torrent of public opinion that it would overwhelm any one who faced it. I, therefore, wanted Exeter Hall in order to try, because I am quite sure that all this turmoil is got up by cliques, coteries, and clubs. (Cheers.) But the committee had a most extraordinary rule—they fear that their bricks and mortar would be defiled if they allowed a public meeting to be held in their building upon any political question. I say this great torrent of which we read in the *Times*—(groans and hisses)—is, after all, nothing but a storm in a teapot, got up by clubs and coteries, who have excited themselves, and think that all the world is in as great a commotion as they are, when, in truth, all the world is wondering what this commotion is about. Of all the popular delusions I ever knew, this stir is certainly the greatest. If you hear anybody make remarks in support of this Palmerston fever, just ask them what they want. Are they satisfied with things as they are? do they want no change for the better? If so, Lord Palmerston is precisely their man. (Cheers and laughter.) But if a man wants less taxation, extension of the suffrage, abolition of Church rates, vote by ballot, or any reform in the Church or State, then I think Lord Palmerston is not the man for him. (Cheers.)

Mr. T. Beggs then moved the following resolution:—

That in the opinion of this meeting the invasion of Persia and the hostilities at Canton were wholly unwarranted, on grounds either of justice or policy; and this meeting further protests against the practice of involving this country in war without the knowledge or consent of Parliament, and earnestly rejoices that by the recent vote of the House of Commons the nation has been saved from the responsibility of those acts of violence and bloodshed committed by British officers on the inhabitants of Canton.

Dr. Epps seconded the resolution.

The Chairman (Mr. Roebuck) wished, before putting the resolution, to say a few words: his health would not permit him to do more. He had consented to preside at that meeting because his feelings were in perfect union with Mr. Cobden and Mr. Layard. He supposed on this occasion, as on others, he should be accused of some coalition. He had coalesced with everybody and had differed from everybody. He was not a peace man, but he said that war was a great calamity, and to justify war great provocation was necessary. The polestar of his life had been England's honour. He had always by that star directed his conduct; and if upon this occasion he had been misled by it, it had been a glorious fault. (Cheers.) He believed that England's honour was compromised by deeds which he would designate as clearly unjust; and, as an honest man, he felt bound to raise his voice against them. (Cheers.)

The resolution was then put and agreed to.

Mr. Hart then moved, and Mr. Murray seconded, the following resolution:—

That the Ministers, by sanctioning and adopting the acts of the subordinate officers at Canton, had made themselves responsible for an outrage committed in criminal violation of English law, and that violation of law, whether committed by a Premier or a peasant, should be dealt with judicially, and the offender punished.

To this an amendment was proposed by Mr. B. O'BRIEN, in favour of an extension of the suffrage. The amendment having been seconded, was then put to the meeting, and was carried.

A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the proceedings at a late hour.

BRITISH BANK DISCLOSURES.

In the Court of Bankruptcy, on Wednesday, before Commissioner Holroyd, Mr. Edward Esdaile, Governor of the Royal British Bank at the time it stopped, was examined; and the report of the examination occupies upwards of nine columns of the morning papers. Much of the space is filled by the reiterated efforts of Mr. Linklater, who appeared for the assignees, and of the Commissioner, to extract direct answers from Mr. Esdaile: they were generally unsuccessful; the Governor fencing with the questions very skilfully, making little orations, and contesting the implied charges on his truth and honesty inch by inch. But from what came out no one can have any difficulty in drawing very distinct conclusions. Mr. Esdaile was one of the original projectors; he was an ordinary director till February, 1855, when he was appointed governor. The bank commenced business when the legal amount of 50,000*l.* had not been paid-up in money—some 7,000*l.* appears to have existed in the form merely of promissory notes. Mr. Esdaile could not "recollect" that money was borrowed to make up the necessary deposit in the Bank of England. Mr. Cameron, the manager, was allotted eighty-nine original shares: he did not pay for them; he gave a promissory note for 4,300*l.*; Mr. Esdaile "presumed" that that represented part of the "paid-up capital." The manager and directors divided 1,100*l.* among them soon after the bank opened; that went down to "preliminary expenses;" it was remuneration for their trouble in getting up the bank. The bank lost at least 10,000*l.* by their deceased solicitor, Mr. Mul-

lens. The pocket-ledger of Cameron—the "green book"—the witness had seen before he was Governor, but he had never opened it till then. Mr. Esdaile and other directors—including Mr. Apesley Pellatt—signed a certificate sent to the Board of Trade declaring that 50,000*l.* had been paid-up. Shares were taken back from persons at Newcastle, the deposits having been repaid by the moneys of the bank—an illegal act. The witness, who had no account with the bank, had got Cameron to discount a bill for 500*l.*; Cameron got that money advanced by the bank, to which at the period he owed 15,000*l.* Mr. Esdaile repaid the money to the bank. Other directors passed acceptances through Cameron's account. Mr. Esdaile wanted the 500*l.* to increase his "stake" in the bank—to take up new shares! Some of the "securities" on which Cameron and others got advances were shares of the bank—though the law expressly prohibits this. Other "securities" of Cameron's turned out to have been previously mortgaged. The Welsh mines were put down as an asset for 120,000*l.* when a purchaser for a much smaller sum had in vain been sought: the directors hoped the colliery would eventually turn out valuable; it would if it had been connected with some important railway. The witness would not answer "yes" or "no" to the question whether he knowingly issued false balance-sheets of the bank: he objected "as a gentleman" to be charged with "wilfully telling an untruth." The directors based their balance-sheets on hopes—hopes that the affairs of the bank would improve; that the mine, and the securities of the directors, and the debts of other people, would turn out better by-and-by; that the bank in the course of years would recover itself, the profits of after years paying off the losses of its youth; so the directors, said Mr. Linklater, reported that the affairs of the bank were "improving and thriving" when they were hopelessly insolvent! Hard pressed as to the insolvency of the bank, the witness at last said that it was insolvent, he supposed. The original capital had all been lost by June, 1855; yet new shares were issued, at a premium too. The examination of Mr. Esdaile was adjourned till next Wednesday.

Spirit of the Press.

ANOTHER COALITION! ANOTHER CONSPIRACY!—The House of Commons has nobly done its duty in voting unanimously:—

That Sir John M'Neill and Colonel Tulloch ably fulfilled the duty entrusted to them of inquiring into the arrangement and management of the Commissariat Department; and that considering the able services rendered by Sir John M'Neill and Colonel Tulloch, as Commissioners in the Crimea, and the high testimony in their favour by Her Majesty's Government, an humble address be presented to Her Majesty, praying that some especial mark of Her favour be conferred upon them. The House of Commons has made ample atonement for the insult offered to these meritorious public servants by Lord Palmerston, when he offered them, as hush-money if they would waive their claims to a public recognition of their services, 1,000*l.*—the exact sum, by-the-by, with which the Marquis of Steyne paid off Becky Sharpe. . . . There is something very ludicrous about the figure the noble Viscount cuts in this affair. He has not indeed been left in the minority by a vote of the House of Commons in favour of Sir John M'Neill and Colonel Tulloch, but he has confessedly only escaped being left in a minority by shrinking from a division. Now his lordship would have had as good an excuse on this occasion, as on that of the China vote, to have denounced the majority against him as the result of a factious combination, or to have ridiculed it as a "fortuitous confluence of atoms." The motion to the adoption of which he yielded with such a bad grace, was concocted in the face of the House between Liberals and Conservatives—between Mr. Ewart, Mr. Palk, and Mr. Sidney Herbert. Why did not Lord Palmerston on the M'Neill-Tulloch question, as on the China question, accept the censure implied in the motion of the majority, and appeal to the country against it? Why did he act so differently in two cases bearing such a strong family resemblance? Because he knew that the country was thoroughly well informed on the merits of the M'Neill-Tulloch case; and because he had good reason to believe that the country knew little and cared less about the China question. When the latter question comes to be as well understood as the former, the deceptive falsehoods about coalitions which have puzzled so many well-meaning men will lose their power. Indeed, they are already losing it, as is apparent from the manner in which Sir Erskine Perry, Mr. Roebuck, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Lindsay have been received by their constituents.—*Daily News*.

THE PALMERSTON MANIA.—With these facts before us, Palmerston and a China war is surely a Bedlamite cry, and we recommend the noble lord's supporters to array it with "Palmerston and Army Corruption," as his lordship is an opponent of the abolition of the sale of commissions and other points of military reform. "Palmerston and Electoral Abuse" would also sound appropriately, for the noble lord is against extending the suffrage, and a bitter foe to the ballot. "Palmerston and Continental Despotism" might be added, for the Premier's foreign policy, hypocritically veiled

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under liberal pretences, has always had the support of the "Holy Alliance" for its special aid. To admire peace at any price principles, to trust Whigs or sustain the Tories, may be very foolish proceedings; but to make a great hullabaloo for Palmerston without the slightest ground for expectation that he will bring forward a single useful measure, indicates a condition of insanity into which we cannot believe the country will fall.—*Atlas*.

THE CITY MEETING.—It is, indeed, very much to be regretted that a public gathering of this kind should have sustained no other character than that of a tumult, for the issue placed before the meeting was well worthy of rational debate and solemn decision. On the one side, the assembly was asked, in the face of impending elections, to decide for a man—or the other for a principle. The meaning of the resolution was, "Men, not measures;" the amendment was, "Measures, not men." Mr. Raikes Currie appeared to be labouring under the notion that after Lord Palmerston, the deluge; and so, according to his advice, the United Kingdom, for the next seven years, is to perform no other service than bind itself over, soul and body, to a frail fellow-mortals whom Providence has afflicted with the gout. On the other hand, Mr. Morley, labouring under the belief that this nation has risen to greatness by its high principle and reformed Christianity, adjured the meeting to pronounce for the truth, and to send members to the House of Commons who would be the slaves of no man, the partisans of no Minister, but the free, unfettered, and independent representatives of the people. Mr. Currie wanted the Guildhall meeting to rally round an individual, Mr. Morley round reform; and we repeat that it is a great pity the supporters of both should have been so fierce in their outcries as to drown every argument, and render the final decision a farce.—*Morning Star*.

LORD JOHN RUSSELL.—Ever since the division on the China question Lord John's motives for his vote have been incessantly and malignantly misrepresented by the doers of the dirty work of the official section of the Liberal party. After this anonymous venom had been allowed to work for a short time, resolutions were passed at a meeting of a City canvassing club, from which the regular reporters of the press were excluded, which indirectly excluded Lord John from the list of Liberal candidates for the City of London. To have acquiesced in this *veto* on his pretensions to represent the City would, on the part of Lord John, have been an acknowledgment that he was no longer worthy to represent it. It would have been a cowardly flight from the attack of a few self-constituted dictators to the electors of London. Lord John Russell had too much conscious integrity for the first, and too much courage for the second. He met the insidious attack by immediately issuing his address to the electors of London. He has thus brought to a close the machinations of anonymous whisperers and underhand intriguers. His accusers, his enemies must now meet him face to face in public, and make good all their charges against him, or remain self-convicted of slander.—*Daily News*. The step itself, whatever may be the result, will sorely puzzle the placers of the Ministerial press. It has been announced, with the utmost emphasis of dogmatic assertion, and with the most judicious garniture of ironical sympathy and malignant sneers, that Lord John stood no chance for the city, not a bit; and he himself, forsooth, was so convinced of it, that he had resolved to anticipate a certain defeat by voluntary retirement. The *Post* sent him to Edinburgh, the *Times* suggested Tavistock—anywhere but London, which was hopelessly closed against him. Lord John is not so easily disposed of. He has pitched a shell among these vain glorious conspirators. There shall be a battle, at all events, and if the electors of London are determined to reject him, it shall be done by an open repudiation of Liberal principles at the poll booth. *Manchester Examiner*.

OUR NEW PLENIPOTENTIARY TO CHINA.—The Earl of Elgin has accepted the office of Plenipotentiary to the Court of Pekin, and will proceed on his arduous mission as soon as he has been made sufficiently acquainted with the views of Her Majesty's Government. It would not be easy to name a more unexceptionable man for the office, or even one with so many positive recommendations. Lord Elgin performed with admirable tact and entire success the task of conducting Canada from Government by cliques and Imperial influences to that system of self-government which has rendered the provinces of British America an honour, and even a support, to the British Throne, instead of a scandal and a thorn in our side. He also successfully negotiated the Treaty for Reciprocity of Trade between British America and the United States. Of course, there were those who opposed both these processes, and therefore did not like the agent employed; but they are now a minority, if not converts to the system which he helped to inaugurate. Lord Elgin is a man of great industry, patience, and forbearance, with ready powers of expression, and a great desire to accommodate himself to the habits of those with whom he has to deal. So well did he discharge the delicate, and, as some thought, impossible task of turning Canadian rebels into British Royalists, without any sacrifice of Imperial dignity, that his popularity extended even across the frontier, and ovations were offered him by the citizens of the adjacent States.—*Times*. There is no apparent reason to object to the nomination of the Earl of Elgin for the Chinese mission. Ministers have probably made as good a selection as the range of persons eligible for such employment offered to their choice. The earl has displayed both temper and sagacity in his dealings with the Canadians, and with the Government at Washington. It is not, however, the part of real well-wishers of the noble lord to excite over-sanguine expectations of his success in his present infinitely

more arduous and delicate mission. Oriental diplomacy is for the Earl of Elgin an untried field. Moreover, in America the path had been made smooth before him by the previous labours of Lords Durham, Sydenham, and Metcalfe; whereas now he is launched on a sea of troubles, without any chart or record of the experience of previous navigators. Most sincerely do we wish that his negotiations may conduce to the benefit of his country, and to the honour of the noble negotiator himself. But we frankly confess that we await the results with considerable anxiety. To speak lightly of the difficulties that lie before him, would, in the event of his success, be to detract from his merits.—*Daily News*.

DON'T DIVIDE THE LIBERAL PARTY.—Beware, then, we repeat to the earnest Liberals, of every candidate, who, whilst offering lip-services to our principles, declares his intention to enlist in the parliamentary ranks of the Ministerial party. There is, of course, the old cry to be faced: "You will divide the Liberal party." We deny that Lord Palmerston holds a single tenet of the Liberal party; we challenge his supporters to show in what particular he is more a Liberal politician than Mr. Disraeli or Sir John Pakington. Let this question be asked at the hustings. There is but one evasion left for his apologists of the Duncombe school, and it reveals the desperation of their case; they hold out the hope that his lordship will yet announce a Liberal policy before the separation of Parliament. He is now in his seventy-third year; within the last few weeks he has voted against the 10/- county franchise, which formed a part of Lord John Russell's bill of 1854, and, if we may take the speech of the Lord Advocate at Leith as an index of his intention, he has within the last week refused the forty-shilling freehold franchise to Scotland. Yet some of his followers who wish to have the semblance of an excuse for going to their constituents as his supporters, think it would mend their case if he would within the next fortnight announce his intention of bringing in a new Reform Bill and removing the Church-rate grievance. He will do nothing of the kind. To do him justice, he is too proud for such a degrading and time serving exhibition of political hypocrisy.—*Morning Star*.

THE DUTY OF THE HOUR.—The first thing that must occur to the mind of every thoughtful, earnest Liberal, in view of the present crisis, is this—Five men out of six have no recognised voice with which to answer Lord Palmerston's appeal to the country. From the basis of this simple, indisputable fact, we deduce the whole duty of the time. The Reform of the Representation is the first and paramount necessity of the country. . . . They (the Liberals) must pledge their candidates to support no Ministry that refuses an extension of the suffrage. Thus alone can they do justice to the millions of their countrymen who are without the pale of the constitution. And thus alone can they evade the formidable difficulties created by recent events. In every Liberal constituency there is now division—division that it would be the rankest folly to deny—division that will be healed by no superficial compromise—division that must prove fatal if it be not recognised and remedied. And there is but one remedy—the preference of principles to persons; of definite projects to vague professions; of a Reform Government to a government of makeshifts.—*Carlisle Journal*.

WHAT SHALL BE OUR BATTLE-CRY?—Shall we not have a minimum, without acceptance of which no candidate shall have our vote at all? We would ourselves, for instance, vote for no one who would not pledge himself to vote for the Ballot, the Extension of the Suffrage, and especially Mr. Locke King's motion, in political matters; and for unconditional Abolition of Church Rates, and we should add Mr. Miall's motion on the Irish Church, in ecclesiastical matters. What is a Liberal worth to us if he be not up to these marks? He may do very well for a Premier's party man, but we happen to want something better than that, and it is time we had it. The ballot and Church-rates are two simple, practical, intelligible questions, admitting of no evasion: they ask the candidate two questions, both of which he ought to be prepared to answer in the affirmative at once—Do you wish the voter to be absolutely independent? and, Do you wish Dissenters to be exempted from a most unrighteous tax and degrading badge? Candidates ready to vote aright on these two questions, will also vote aright on ordinary Liberal questions. We recommend electors, indeed, to make a candidate go through the whole Liberal catechism: it can do him no harm to declare his opinions on all the popular demands and grievances of the day: still there is a convenience in having one or two known subjects, which every one understands, on which all earnest friends of civil and religious liberty have long made up their minds, and on which, therefore, they can insist as indispensable, and be also well understood by both candidates and fellow-electors. If, for instance, we could only secure a large number of members pledged to the Ballot and to Church-rate abolition, we should have almost neutralised the mischief of an election taking place on a question of foreign policy. Many other points long settled in our minds are as yet imperfectly understood by constituents. Let them be mentioned, let them be ventilated, but lay the stress and fight the battle on those points which all can appreciate.—*Freeman*.

WILL ENGLAND SUBJUGATE ITSELF?—You are about to return a Parliament for seven years. What have Ministers done in the past to merit your trust for the future? Is it for having proposed an unnecessary expenditure of 2,000,000/- in their estimates? Is it for having choked off Sir William Clay, and quashed the movement for the abolition of Church-rates? Is it for scouting the motion for vote by ballot; for laughing at the proposition of Sir Joshua Walmsley for extension of the suffrage; for ignoring

Locke King's proposal for giving the franchise to 10/- occupiers in the counties; for sneaking out of the question of Jewish Disabilities; for opposing every law reform proposed even by Tories; for sacrificing all the principles of reform in the Commons as the price of support in the Lords; for putting up a Whig Lord Chancellor to maintain every antiquated abuse in the law, and venerable absurdity in jurisprudence, against the assaults of progress, of reason, and even of Conservative Peers? You are proverbially "proud islanders." Through piracy and filibustering, through cajolery and violence, through force and fraud, you have seized an empire on which the sun never sets. Like the Romans, and confident in your strength, you believe your destiny to point to aggression and conquest. You can listen to no enemy until you have laid him prostrate. Not until resistance is at your feet, can you think either of justice or of mercy. But are you to make the conquest of China the instrument of subjugating yourselves? Are you to help Palmerston not only to humiliate Yeh, but to subjugate the people of England? The fever fit is on you—the ague may come soon. The Minister may appeal to the country; China and Bowring won't save him. For all his affected horror of coalitions, he will go on, as he has done, to coalesce with Tories to beat Reformers, and to conspire with Whigs to defeat the Tories. But all will not serve him. The Liberals who followed Lord John Russell in the present Parliament will support him in the next. Not with impunity will the Premier have charged them with conspiracy. They will *bide* their time; but assuredly it will come. And then a Derby Ministry will follow, and that will fail, and last will come Lord John Russell and a Radical Administration. Let Reformers beware; to return a pledged Palmerston Parliament is to postpone progress, retrenchment, and economy, for the space allotted to a human generation.—*Weekly Dispatch*.

THE PROSCRIPTION.—To obtain for this personage now upwards of seventy, and surrounded by second-rate men, a firm grasp of power, is the grand undisguised aim of the approaching contest, and it is to be carried on in a sweeping and high-handed fashion, the effect of which upon the Liberal party we shall be anxious to see. The Ministerial papers publish lists of proscriptions, wherein figures the name of almost every Liberal whose sense of justice and humanity overcame last week his attachment to his nominal chief. . . . The organs of the Government exult in the expected slaughter, and taunt the "Coalition"—a little too early—with having gained a shortlived and suicidal triumph. And it is worth remarking that this struggle to put down independence, to chastise an honest adherence to principle, and flog a great party into absolute submission to a distrusted leader, is urged on amidst the most vehement denunciations of faction and party spirit. The loudest bawlers against coalitions are the advocates of proceedings which must force into Opposition, perhaps against their will, many distinguished men. In this respect Lord Palmerston is playing, for a temporary advantage, his adversaries' game, and there will be no hing to regret if it should gain a certain measure of success.—*Guardian*.

Court, Personal, and Official News.

After her brief sojourn at Windsor Castle, the Queen returned to Buckingham Palace on Thursday afternoon. Prince Albert had already, on behalf of Her Majesty, held a levee at St. James's Palace. It was very fully attended both by military officers and civilians. On Friday night, Her Majesty and Prince Albert, accompanied by the Princess Royal and the Princess Alice, were present at the Princess's Theatre. The Queen held a Court on Monday at Buckingham Palace. Monsieur Gonzalez Bravo had an audience, and delivered to Her Majesty his credentials as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary from the Queen of Spain. The Earl of Elgin, K.T., was presented to the Queen by the Earl of Clarendon, and kissed hands, on being appointed Her Majesty's Plenipotentiary to China. The Earl of Clarendon had an audience of the Queen. The Prince of Wales, attended by Major-General Wylde and Mr. Gibbs, visited the works of the Gutta Percha Company in Wharf-road, City-road. In the evening the Queen went again to the Princess's Theatre.

It is said that the appointment of Plenipotentiary to the Pekin Government, accepted by the Earl of Elgin, was first offered to the Duke of Newcastle, and declined by him.

Earl Amherst, who died on Friday, was early in 1816 appointed ambassador extraordinary to the Emperor of China. He left England in the *Alceste* in February that year, on his mission. On reaching the precincts of the Imperial Palace at Pekin, and refusing to submit to the humiliating ceremonies of the Emperor's Court, he was refused admission to the presence of the Emperor, rendering his mission useless.

Viscount Ebrington is still at Naples, and will not return to England until the latter end of next month. His lordship's general health is much improved.

The estimate for "secret service" for the current year is 32,000/-, and 10,000/- is to be voted "on account."

The office of President of the General Council of the Manchester Exhibition, which became vacant by the lamented death of the Earl of Ellesmere, has been offered to and accepted by the Right Hon. the Lord Overstone.

In consequence of the recent financial discussions, we understand that the Chancellor of the Exchequer has declined to accept the offer of the gentlemen who purchased the Soulages collection with the view of securing it for the country.

Postscript.

Wednesday, March 18, 1857.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords, yesterday, a question urged by the Earl of Hardwicke, relative to the production of papers, provoked a lively conversation touching the pending hostilities in China. In the course of this discussion Earl Granville renewed his defence of Sir J. Bowring, while Earl Grey, the Earl of Ellenborough, and the Earl of Derby, enforced the opinions they had previously expressed, that the British Commissioner at Hong Kong had committed many errors, and incurred a very serious responsibility.

The Income-tax Bill went through committee.

Other bills having been advanced a stage, a second miscellaneous discussion arose upon the Chinese question, with special reference to the pay, allowances, and treatment of the troops who had lately been despatched to Hong Kong.

Their lordships then adjourned until twelve o'clock this day (Wednesday).

In the House of Commons, Viscount CASTLEROSE appeared at the bar, bringing up Her Majesty's gracious reply to the address of the Commons, praying for some special mark of favour towards Sir J. McNeill and Colonel Tulloch. In this reply it was announced that directions had been given by the Crown to carry out the intentions expressed in the resolution of the House.

The motion of Mr. Oliveira, respecting the wine duties, and of Mr. T. Duncombe, on the subject of grievances complained of by the Land Transport Corps, were severally withdrawn for the present session.

Mr. BRAMLEY-MOORE having called attention to the convention just concluded for the capitalisation of the Sound dues, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER stated that the share to be paid by this country towards redeeming these dues would be 1,125,200/-

The Speaker's Retirement Bill, the Exchequer Bills Bill, and the Appropriation Bill, were respectively passed through committee. The Mutiny Bills were considered as amended, and ordered to stand for third reading.

In reply to questions from Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Henley respecting the Neapolitan question, Lord PALMERSTON stated that no offer had been made by the British Government, either through their own agents or to foreign powers, for the forcible suppression of republican institutions, under the contingency that any such political organisations should spring up in the kingdom of the Two Sicilies.

The house adjourned at half-past five o'clock.

REPRESENTATION OF THE CITY.

The adjourned special meeting of the General and Parliamentary Committees of the London Liberal Registration Association, convened by summons, was held yesterday, in the large room of the London Tavern, to consider the state of the representation for London, with a view to the impending general election. Mr. J. TRAVERS was called to the chair.

Sir JAMES DUKE addressed the meeting, defending his conduct, especially his refusal to support Mr. Dodson in East Sussex—that gentleman being hostile to the ballot and in favour of Maynooth.

Mr. RAIKES CURRIE followed. He said, he believed a thorough Liberal would succeed him at Northampton. Mr. Gilpin, a gentleman known to many in that room, a Nonconformist, whose Nonconformist opinions were acceptable to many of the electors of Northampton, was, he believed, the candidate selected. (Hear, hear.) It was objected that his creed was too Palmerstonian:

It so happened that he had been called upon by the electors of Northampton when he had never been in Northampton in his life; and he had said in reply, that he would only offer himself as their representative when they entirely understood his sentiments. Six months before the election took place he went down to Northampton and made a full, true, and explicit declaration of his opinions, and, though that statement was made nearly twenty-one years ago, it was based upon such broad principles that it was almost applicable to the affairs of to-day, except in its allusions to those great measures of reform which had since become law, and in carrying which through Parliament he had been, he might say, a humble though zealous supporter. (Cheers.) In that address he had pledged himself to the principle of the ballot—(cheers)—and to the great principles of free-trade in their fullest and widest sense, to electoral reform, and extension of the suffrage at least to every householder. (Cheers.) He had ever pledged himself to seek for the abolition of that great abuse the Established Church in Ireland. He entirely separated that Church from the Established Church in England, in support of which he recognised the principle which applied its old endowments to religious uses, but he was against the Irish Church Establishment, which had been founded in injustice and was maintained with blood. (Cheers.) For himself, he would only ask them to refer to his votes, which he believed would be quite satisfactory to the electors. The honourable gentleman here reviewed at some length his political career, showing how for years he had voted with a small but select minority on all the great questions affecting civil and religious liberty.

Had they no hopes, he asked, of getting reform, and a large reform, from Lord Palmerston as a Prime Minister? He then quoted from the Attorney-General's address to his constituents, noticed elsewhere.

Baron ROTHSCHILD, who was warmly received, said

he had the greatest possible respect for Lord John Russell, and it would grieve him greatly if his lordship was not to have the honour of representing the City of London, but at the same time, to talk of such a coalition as that which he had mentioned existing between himself and the noble lord was quite out of the question, and was, in fact, sheer nonsense. (Cheers.) He could not come before them enumerating the many votes which he had given in support of civil and religious liberty—for he had never had an opportunity of serving them—all his claims existed in the great principle which had so long led the electors to support him. (Much cheering.)

After an address from Mr. Crawford,

Mr. S. MORLEY gave his reasons why, in case of a contest, he would not vote for Sir James Duke, but would give his hearty support to Lord J. Russell. (Cheers.) He objected entirely to Sir James Duke, not for what he had done in the East Sussex election, but because he disagreed entirely with his general Parliamentary career. (Cheers.) He found, for instance, that out of 198 Parliamentary divisions Sir J. Duke had only been present at forty-four, and that out of forty-four special proposals brought forward in the House of Commons by men earnestly labouring to advance the cause of Liberal progress, the honourable baronet had been absent from thirty of them. That course might do for Lynn or Tavistock, but it would not do for the city of London—(cheers)—and, on the whole, he had arrived at the conclusion that Sir James Duke had not manifested that sincere and earnest spirit which would induce him (Mr. Morley) to support him at the forthcoming elections. He would vote for Mr. Raikes Currie, though he thought his address was entirely Palmerstonian. He found in that address an unworthy sneer at Lord J. Russell, under a reference to those "fortuitous atoms," as they had been called by Lord Palmerston. He believed, however, that Lord J. Russell would have a great place in history when the very names of the noisiest men of the present day were forgotten. (Great cheering.) He (Mr. Morley) would vote for Lord John Russell with all his heart.

Mr. BENNOCH moved:

That any resolution attempting to confine the choice of the electors of the city of London to gentlemen connected with commerce is unwise in principle, and ought not to be countenanced by this Liberal Association, because it improperly narrows the area from which members of Parliament may be selected; and that the resolution passed last Tuesday by this association be rescinded.

Mr. STONE seconded the resolution, and Mr. BATEMAN opposed it. Mr. DAKIN moved:

That this meeting, having heard the sentiments of Sir James Duke, Baron Rothschild, Mr. Raikes Currie, and Mr. Crawford, is of opinion that they are eminently calculated to represent the city of London in Parliament, and hereby tender them its support.

Mr. STONE seconded the amendment.

Mr. ARTHORPE had never voted for Lord John Russell, but he believed there was a principle involved in re-electing Lord John Russell, who had served them faithfully for sixteen years, and he should therefore, for the first time, vote for that noble lord.

Mr. WHITE also declared his determination to support Lord John Russell, and he was quite convinced that a large portion of the constituency would go with him.

The amendment was then put, and, on a show of hands, was declared by the Chairman to be carried; but doubts being expressed as to the correctness of that decision, the Chairman put the question a second time, when the show of hands was unmistakably in favour of the amendment.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

BATH.—Sir A. H. Elton, Bart., and Mr. Tite, attended a public meeting at Bath, on Monday afternoon, and were received with hearty applause.

BEDFORD.—Mr. Barnard, the banker, comes forward with Mr. Whitbread. He is in favour of measures of reform, "especially the extension of the franchise, total abolition of church-rates, a large and liberal scheme of education, and a comprehensive plan of legal reform."

BODMIN.—Mr. Whitehurst has withdrawn in favour of Mr. J. Wyld, as both are advanced Liberals, and it is desirable not to split the interest of the borough.

BRIGHTON.—Mr. Coningham addressed an immense assemblage of the Liberals of this borough on Monday evening, at the Town Hall, and had a most enthusiastic reception.

DUNFERMLINE BURGHS.—Mr. Lawrence Oliphant, well known for his travels in Nepal, in Minnesota, in Russia, and in Circassia, where he served under Omar Pasha, has issued an address, in which he says:

As a thorough Liberal I am in favour of an extension of the franchise, of assimilating the plan of registration of voters in counties to that of burghs, and of a system of electoral divisions by which the community at large might be equally represented. I consider all Ecclesiastical endowments by the State inconsistent with religious liberty, and I am opposed to the endowment of the Roman Catholic College of Maynooth, as being a part of the system. The vote by ballot would probably prove a better means of arriving at the political sentiments of the population than that at present pursued, and I think deserves a fair trial.

FINSBURY.—Last night a crowded meeting was held at the British School-rooms, Cowper-street, City-road, for the purpose of acquainting the electors of the borough with the political opinions of Mr. Serjeant Parry. Mr. John Fuller occupied the chair. Mr. Serjeant Parry then addressed the meeting at length, and explained his political principles. A resolution was adopted on the motion of Dr. James, seconded by Mr. Medley, declaring Mr. Serjeant Parry to be the right man to represent the borough.

GREENWICH.—Mr. Alderman Salomons, it is said is willing to take the field if a requisition sufficiently signed is presented to him.

HUDDERSFIELD.—At a meeting held at the George Hotel, on Monday night, Mr. Akroyd was nominated as a candidate. He issued an address yesterday morning, and at midday addressed about 2,000 persons in front of the Cloth-hall. Last night a large and enthusiastic meeting in favour of Mr. Akroyd was held at the George Hotel. No other candidate has yet been nominated.—*Times*.

LAMBETH.—The contest for this borough is certain to be severe. Neither of the present members will yield without a struggle, and Mr. Roupell is determined to go to the poll. The report of a coalition between Mr. Roupell and Mr. Williams is denied.

LEICESTER.—A meeting of the friends and supporters of Sir Joshua Walmsley and Mr. Biggs was held on Monday in the New Hall, to introduce the honourable gentlemen personally as candidates for re-election. The hall, which will hold 2,000 persons, was crowded. Both the members were enthusiastically received.

MANCHESTER.—We have good grounds for believing, not merely that Mr. Lowe has given the leaders in this movement no reason to expect that he will become a candidate, but that he has distinctly assured his friends at Kidderminster that, if elected, he will sit for that borough.—*Manchester Examiner*. Mr. Bright's address has been received. In the course of it he says:

It is not needful that I should say a word on the many political topics which I have so often discussed with you and among you. On those points which have recently arisen, however, I wish to be clearly understood. I entirely approve of the resolution moved by Mr. Cobden, and seconded by Mr. Gibson, on the subject of the melancholy events at Canton.

I am bound, too, to condemn the policy of the Government in making war with Persia without consulting Parliament, and without ever informing the representatives of the people of the course they were about to take, or of the objects for which they were entering into war. If we permit a Ministry to declare war without the knowledge and consent of Parliament, we at once reduce ourselves in our foreign policy to the condition of those nations of the continent of Europe which have no Parliaments, and which do not pretend to possess a free constitution. I feel confident that every elector of Manchester, of every party, will unite to make a stand against a course so unconstitutional and so degrading to the nation.

I cannot approve of the proposition of the Chancellor of the Exchequer to raise the duties on tea and sugar. There is a perfect fever of excitement in this city (says the *Times*), and the promoters of the requisition to the Right Hon. Robert Lowe, M.P., and Sir John Potter, speak confidently of success. The requisition has received, it is said, upwards of 4,000 signatures.

NORTHAMPTON.—A meeting of the Liberal electors of this borough was held at the Milton Hall, on Monday night, to determine upon a candidate for the coming election, in place of Mr. R. Currie, who stands for the city of London. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Charles Gilpin and Mr. Otway, M.P. for Stafford. Both gentlemen put themselves at the pleasure of the meeting to stand or retire according to its decision. A show of hands having been taken, the decision was declared to be in favour of Mr. Gilpin. A thorough union of all the Liberals has taken place, and there is little doubt but our present member, Mr. R. V. Smith, and Mr. Gilpin, will be returned.—*Times*.

OXFORD.—The Right Hon. Edward Cardwell met a large body of his supporters—consisting of the leading tradesmen, &c., in the city—at the Star Hotel, on Monday evening, when he entered fully into the Chinese and other important questions, to the satisfaction of his most wavering constituents.

TOWER HAMLETS.—A number of the most influential Liberal electors of the Tower Hamlets are taking steps to get up a requisition to Mr. A. S. Ayrton, who contested the borough at the last general election. Mr. Ayrton, in a letter to an elector of great influence, says he has no objection to become a candidate for the representation of the borough if there is a sufficient manifestation of feeling on his behalf.

WEST RIDING.—Mr. Cobden has issued his farewell address, in which he says that a large constituency is a terrible tax on the time of public men:

Nor does it confer any compensating rank or privilege in the struggle of parliamentary life. The House of Commons is a pure republic, where each member's position is decided by his own intrinsic qualities, and his arguments derive no force from the weight of the body whom he represents. Lord John Russell would be equally our first debater, whether he sat for London or Tavistock. It is true that a very different rule applies to the votes of the members for large constituencies, for they serve to indicate the policy which, sooner or later, the Government must pursue. But, as, with the exception of Free-trade, my honourable colleague and myself are generally opposed on the great questions of the day, I am deprived of the satisfaction of feeling that my vote has any weight in the decisions of the Legislature.

He says that it has been his intention to withdraw from the West Riding ever since the close of the Free-trade contest.

MARK-LANE—THIS DAY.

Although only a limited supply of English wheat was on sale in to-day's market, the demand for all kinds ruled heavy, but without leading to any alteration in value. There was a slight improvement in the condition of the samples. The imports of foreign wheat are 5,550 quarters. Even the finest qualities met a dull inquiry, and inferior parcels were offered on easier terms. There was a fair demand for barley and malt, and Monday's prices were supported. The oat trade ruled heavy, at barely stationary prices. Beans, peas, and flour were in moderate supply, and heavy request, at Monday's currency.

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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 1857.

SUMMARY.

It is believed that the business of the session will be concluded this week, and the proclamation dissolving Parliament published next Saturday. Meanwhile, the House of Commons is hastening through its routine work—passing the Estimates for four months without discussion, voting with hearty good will an annuity of 4,000*l.* a year to the retiring Speaker, and indulging in a parting discussion on the vote for education, which this year amounts to 541,233*l.*, with the prospect, according to Sir John Pakington, of soon reaching one million per annum. One of the last acts of the moribund Parliament has been a formal recognition of the able services and fidelity of the Crimean Commissioners, and their title to some "special mark of approbation" from the Government. Though the resolution on the subject was vigorously opposed by Lord Palmerston as an "anachronism," and uncalled for by the circumstances of the case, his lordship found himself in danger of a defeat by "a combination," to use the current Ministerial phrase, but what is more rightly described as the general sense of the House, and was obliged to give way. The meritorious labours of Sir John McNeill and Colonel Tulloch have been at length recognised by a formal and unopposed vote of the House of Commons, in spite of the pertinacious opposition of the Horse Guards, the War Office, and the Treasury. The address thus voted by the popular branch of the Legislature was imprudently spoken of by Lord Granville, in the Upper House, as an "attack which led the House of Commons to interfere with the prerogative of the Crown on that occasion!"

Election programmes are put forth from the House of Lords as well as in the representative assembly shortly to be dissolved. On Monday night the Earl of Derby made a clever, but not very satisfactory exposition, of his views of the present crisis. He predicts a large deficit in the revenue, which can only be made up by "a rigid system of economy." He would greatly reduce the miscellaneous estimates, but there was little hope of curtailing our war establishments so long as a tone of menace and braggadocio towards foreign powers was maintained on every fancied injury, so long as our subordinates in all parts of the world are to have the power of committing this country to war, and whether right or wrong, are to be supported on a point of honour by the government at home, and so long as it is held to be beyond the province of Parliament to take cognisance of their acts for fear of being charged with factious opposition to the Government. The noble leader of the Opposition of course repudiated the ridiculous idea of combination in connexion with Mr. Cobden's motion, and spoke somewhat sneeringly of "the gentlemen called the Peelites, who did not seem to act sometimes in very great concert with each other;" and of Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Sidney Herbert, Sir James Graham, and Mr. Cardwell, who "were infinitely more inclined to support the Government than to support him." This remark, coupled with Mr. Disraeli's protest against Mr. Gladstone's financial resolution, last week, suggests whether the alliance between Lord Derby and the ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer is not already at an end. The Opposition leader in the House of Lords denounced "the pernicious principle of interference with foreign countries," and Lord Palmerston's domestic policy, because he had no confidence in the steadiness and firmness of the noble lord's Conservative principles in time of pressure—having in the case of the Crimean Commissioners "acted in a manner inconsistent with the dignity of the Crown, and his duty as First Minister." The following is all we can make of Lord Derby's Conservative programme:—

If the noble lord would turn his attention to matters of social improvement, such as the revision of the

statutes, the disposal of convicts, and of stimulating religious and moral education, he might depend on the cordial co-operation of the much-abused Conservative party. But if, yielding to outward pressure, he gave way to principles of innovation, he trusted he would find that the Conservative party was still sufficiently numerous and powerful to stay him in his downward course, to rescue him from himself and his supporters, and to prevent the infliction of an injury to his country. (Hear, hear.) He was satisfied that it was essential to the interests of the country that the Conservative party should be both numerous and powerful. (Hear, hear.) He (Lord Derby) would use his power for the maintenance of the prerogative of the Crown, the hereditary character of their Lordships' House, the rights of the people, and the preservation of the rights and principles of the Established Church; and he might say with confidence that he had never shrunk from the avowal of his principles. (Cheers.)

What is to be the Ministerial programme for the general election? On this vital point there is no reliable information. If we take Mr. Lowe as our guide, we find him sneering at "mere election cries of extension of the suffrage, the ballot," &c.: but since the Vice-President of the Board of Trade addressed his constituents, public opinion has very unmistakably been declared in favour of domestic reform. The Premier is evidently watching the direction of the current ere he declares himself. If we are to believe Lord Granville, the Palmerston Government is disposed to go forward. In reply to Lord Derby, he said, on Monday, "If the noble lord wishes to put us in the same boat with him respecting electoral reform, if he imagines that we think with him that our electoral system is perfectly unsuceptible of either renovation or improvement, I tell him that such is not our opinion. With regard to that and other questions, Her Majesty's Government pledge themselves to progressive improvement." But Lord Grauville made a poor excuse for the opposition offered to Mr. Locke King's Bill for extending the county franchise. He states that Ministers had, after due deliberation, determined to support the Bill, proposing to engraft some amendments on it. When they came, however, to examine the Bill, they found it unsuceptible of amendment, and therefore joined with the anti-reformers to throw it out. "If it were indeed so," asks the *Daily News*, "why was this not intimated to the supporters of the Bill before or at the time it was voted upon? That no such proposals were made is in itself an irrefragable proof that the amendments contemplated were intended to neutralise insidiously the provisions of the Bill, and could not therefore safely be offered for the acceptance of its supporters."

The Attorney-General surpasses the President of the Council in the profuseness of his promises. The following is an extract from his address to the electors of Aylesbury:—

The extension of the franchise, and the removal of inequalities in our electoral system; the continued reduction of expenditure, and consequently of taxation, so far as is consistent with the maintenance of establishments necessary to preserve the honour and safety of the country; the removal of some remaining impediments to commercial freedom; the completion of religious liberty, by the total extinction of Church-rates and the removal of Jewish disabilities; the abolition of the ecclesiastical courts; the enactment of laws to repress dishonesty in trustees and directors of public companies; the facilitating of the sale and transfer of landed property; the introduction of greater economy, despatch, and method into several departments of the administration of civil and criminal justice; and, lastly, an enlarged system of education of the people, were some few of the subjects which in the next Parliament must engage the attention of sincere and conscientious men, and which he would be anxious to support.

This extract was read by Mr. Raikes Currie at the City meeting yesterday, in reply to the inquiry what Lord Palmerston was going to do. It was followed by an inquiry from an irreverent and incredulous listener, whether Mr. Currie was reading from *Punch*?

But we would caution Reformers against placing too ready a credence in the statements of a gentleman who, though holding an important post in the Government, is not a member of the Cabinet. It is for them to return true and liberal men, from whom Ministers will take their policy; not men who will merely follow in the wake of any party leader. It is clear that the election will not now be decided on personal preferences. The old cry of "Measures, not Men," is still influential, and comes not only from independent men, but even from Lord Palmerston's partisans. "Electors must be careful," said Mr. R. Currie, whose partiality for the present Prime Minister is beyond dispute, "that they did not return men to Parliament who merely shouted 'Palmerston for ever!' but who, nevertheless, when secure of their seats, would do nothing to advance the progress of liberal opinion." If a Reform Parliament be returned, there will be no difficulty in finding a Minister to carry out its wishes.

In addition to a statement of Ministerial policy which it seems to be expected, the Prime Minister will make in the House of Commons on Friday, on the eve of the dissolution, Lord John

Russell will to-morrow explain his views to the electors of the City at the London Tavern. As every one is aware, his lordship has declined to take the hint of the small clique that manages election matters for the City constituency, to withdraw in silence. He appeals from that select coterie to the great body of electors. If he be rejected, he will be rejected by those who have hitherto supported him. Lord John Russell has taken a manly and courageous course worthy of his former self. His present position is the best proof of the faithfulness of his vote on the Chinese question. Whatever other parties might gain by the defeat of Ministers, he had no personal ends to serve by ejecting Lord Palmerston and allowing Lord Derby to resume office. In his address to his constituents, which very conclusively justifies his vote for Mr. Cobden's resolution, Lord John speaks cautiously of the future. "By establishing peace upon lasting foundations," he says, "we shall obtain the means of enforcing economy in the public expenditure. With peace and economy we shall obtain leisure to pursue the work of legal, social, ecclesiastical, and political reform. I am perfectly aware that the terms peace, economy, and reform have for the moment lost their charm to the ears of the present generation. But I must yet declare that, if again elected your representative, you must not expect from me an abjuration of my old creed. In office and out of office I have pursued the objects which those three words are intended to designate. The present Government, sprung from the Liberal party, cannot stand permanently on any other basis than that of the good old principles and the good old cause. Whatever may be your determination, it is my purpose to adhere to them for the remainder of my life." Lord John, in effect, declares that he is ready to take up with reform whenever the public are prepared to sustain him.

Yesterday, at a second meeting of the Liberal Registration Association, his lordship was again excluded from the City candidature, though by a very narrow majority. The expression of opinion showed a marked change in his favour. Mr. Morley said he should give a "hearty vote" for Lord John, whose name would live when those of hundreds of the noisiest men of the present day were forgotten, and was found associated in the recent vote with other eminent men—Mr. Cobden, Mr. Roebeck, and other of the best men in the kingdom. Of the four candidates proposed by the committee, Sir James Duke was specially objected to by Mr. Morley, on the ground that, out of one hundred and ninety-eight divisions, in the last session of Parliament, he was absent on thirty of them. The meeting was informed that Lord John Russell would certainly go to the poll. It remains to be seen how far the general body of electors support the Liberal Registration Association. Should Lord John Russell declare to-morrow in favour of a policy in harmony with the unmistakable wishes of a great majority of the constituencies, there is little doubt not only of his return for the City, but of his not distant re-instatement in office at the head of a Reform Ministry.

PALMERSTON'S GAME, AND THE PEOPLE'S.

EVERYBODY knows the fable of the old man invoking death, and being terrified out of his senses by the sudden appearance of the pale monarch. Lord Palmerston's appeal to the country bids fair to produce him a return not less scaring, nor more satisfactory to him. The echo which has been awakened by his hustings, cry, like its well-known Irish prototype, will repeat that cry, and something more. The noble lord, in seeking a more obsequious servant, is in danger of finding a more exacting master. The name of "Palmerston" is too insipid a dish to be eaten without sauce of some kind. Every constituency before which the *piece de resistance* is set down, insist upon its being served up with the accompaniments best suited to their palate. Some couple the name with "Protestantism"—others with "military reform." Here, his avowed supporters cry out for "No Income-tax"—there, for "political progress." We have Palmerstonian Conservatives, Palmerstonian Liberals, Palmerstonian Radicals, and Palmerstonian Dissenters. But nobody appears to relish Palmerston apart from some programme—and in the majority of cases, we opine, the hare is valued chiefly for its condiments.

Whatever may be the precise cast of the coming elections, there can be little doubt that the Derbyites have made a most unskillful party move. They will gain nothing by the dissolution. We cannot affect to be grieved that the occasion of the present appeal to the constituencies has been an isolated question upon which parties, as such, are precluded from staking the issue of the general election. So far as we can gather, the China

vote will tell but little either for or against candidates. It will operate either way only where sitting members have been looked upon as nonentities. The main struggle, as we anticipated, seems likely to turn upon the general political creed professed, and the ascertained character of the men professing it. No constituency will put up with men who adopt as their standard what Palmerston is, or has done—all require conformity to what they hope Palmerston *may become*, and be compelled to do. The noble Premier is regarded as a sponge which will give out in proportion to the squeezing which it gets. Send him a stand-still majority, and he will be but too happy to stand still until death. Send him a majority of determined Reformers, and he will not be unwilling to lead on that majority to their objects. He is but, as it were, the straw that floats upon the surface of opinion—nor, it is thought, does he care greatly what that opinion may be.

Well, a considerable majority of Reformers will, no doubt, be returned in response to his appeal. We are not so confident, however, as many of his admirers seem to be, that he will understand the conditions on which support will be rendered him. We admit his tact. We know how marvellously he can adapt himself to his position. But, we apprehend that his instincts and sympathies will lead him to attempt a clever deception of his party, far rather than their substantial satisfaction. The man is not at home on broad political principles. He has never yet, either as locomotive, or as first-class carriage, kept on the rail. He loves intrigue. He rejoices in driving near the edges of a precipice, if only to exercise his skill. He would delight in bearding, not only Parliament, but the people, if he could do so without being turned out—not because he dislikes either, but because he likes to exercise himself in feats of courageous dexterity. It is a well-known peculiarity of the rat tribe, that unless they continually occupy themselves in gnawing some hard substance, their teeth grow into spiral tusks, useless and even hurtful to themselves. So Lord Palmerston's activity and acuteness of mind are such, that he must, perforce of nature, employ them upon some resisting obstruction or other, or they become an annoyance to himself. He cannot bear to swim down the stream. Our suspicion is that the larger his majority, the more restlessly will he set to work to circumvent them. The fewer difficulties he finds, the more he will make. That is no sport to him which does not test to the utmost his patience, tact, ingenuity, and courage. He has been bred up a diplomatist—or, more correctly speaking, he was born one. He is fond by nature and habit of fishing in troubled water. And hence, we judge, he will be far more apt to try and worry a decided majority, than to trample upon an enfeebled opposition.

And the noble lord, it must be confessed, is so gay a deceiver—he puts you off with such a jocular air—he is so good-humoured even in his mischief, and so agile even when he treads upon your corns—he has such a twinkle of fun in his face just when he most disappoints you, and tosses aside your gravest principles with such a bewitching air of comicality, that it will require a deal of earnestness, and some show of fight, to bring him down to serious measures. We should not be much surprised if he charms the new Parliament into temporary submission to his rule. The only thing that can beat him is stern and persevering determination of purpose, and this requires good leading, which the more advanced Liberals sadly lack. The Conservative Opposition are, unfortunately, as destitute of a programme as Lord Palmerston himself. The Reform movement, therefore, will have to push itself forward by the strength of its tail. In a word, the only chance for Reformers lies in choosing right men, choosing plenty of them, and looking well after them when they are chosen. It was always true, that the people must be content to do their own work—but it was never so obviously true as at the present moment. The prominent statesmen of the day are none of them to be implicitly trusted. Their names are but snares to the unwary—if used at all, they must be used with the significance which the people themselves may choose to impart to them.

Would it were otherwise! Would it were the temper of the times to scout insincerity and legerdemain off the political stage! There was a time when men were more serious, more true to their convictions, more swayed by definite principles. We, alas! have fallen upon an age of transition and compromise. Everything is confused and contradictory. We never thought to wish Lord John Russell success in the City. And yet, considering him as representing the supremacy of Parliament over the Executive, and as the ablest opponent of a "turbulent and aggressive foreign policy," we cannot but desire to see him triumphantly returned. He has a traditional political creed, at all

events, although when in office he is too apt to forget some of its articles—and this much may be said in his favour, that addicted as he has been to standing still, he has always moved in a forward direction when he has moved at all. But how sad it is that there should be no statesmen whose course may be confidently predicted as the natural outflow of his principles! How lamentable that men in earnest can neither vote for nor against any of the parliamentary veterans with entire satisfaction! Politics have degenerated from a high contest to a game—and weight of character, and consistency of conduct, do less to decide who shall win, than skilful manoeuvring, and clever stratagem.

If any one thing more than another should make us intent on obtaining a large measure of Parliamentary Reform, it is the vitalising of the constituent body by the infusion into it of fresh blood from the now excluded classes. How long are the interests of the country to be tossed to and fro between some half-dozen ruling families? We shall never get the machine of the State out of the ruts, until we consent to apply to it the rude but honest force of the great body of the community. The heart of our electoral system, if not thoroughly unsound, is miserably dwarfed and feeble. We want more life, more honesty, more unconventional political morality. This, therefore, must be our main object at the hustings, our main effort in Parliament. The opportunity is not by any means an unpropitious one. Let the electors improve it! They promise well, at present—let that promise be fully redeemed! The Constitution requires an alternative in the shape of a comprehensive Reform Bill. Be it the care of those to whom the political destinies of the country are ultimately confided, to administer one without fear or hesitation! Then, whether we have Palmerston or Russell, Gladstone or Graham at the helm, the vessel will be steered, not in accordance with the whim or convenience of this faction or of that, but in obedience to the will of the general public.

ELECTION PROSPECTS.

THE events of the week entirely confirm our opinion, that the Palmerston mania bears all the characteristics of a temporary excitement, and that constituencies will not in their cooler moments visit with penal consequences those Liberal members who found themselves unable to support the iniquities of British officials in China. More than a score of these conscientious offenders were, according to the Palmerstonian organs, to be proscribed. But the real victims are very few. Honourable gentlemen who have boldly confronted the threatened danger, have found it by no means overwhelming. Mr. Williams, spite of his obnoxious vote, has obtained the thanks of a large meeting of his Lambeth constituents. At Portsmouth, Sir F. Baring, one of the conspicuous supporters of Mr. Cobden though he "has been a party man all his life," is left securely in his seat; while his colleague, Viscount Monck, has found that his Chinese vote could not save him from the condemnation of a large public meeting, who were unreasonable enough to prefer an extension of the suffrage and the ballot to Palmerstonian professions. At Tynemouth, Mr. Lindsay bears down all opposition, and receives a cordial promise of future support. Sir Erskine Perry, specially proscribed for his anti-Ministerial vote, turns the current in his favour, and in a Government dockyard town so rallies the whole Liberal constituency on his behalf that Mr. Bernal Osborne declines to show his face. Mr. Roe buck, one of the conspirators, is received with such enthusiasm by a monster meeting at Sheffield, that he is able to carry in with him his laborious colleague, Mr. Hadfield, whose strong peace principles are less palatable to that large constituency. We might still further extend the list. Mr. Dunlop retires before the storm, but is called back by the electors of Greenock; Mr. Layard, who, according to Ministerial prints, was to be expelled with ignominy, is successfully canvassing his constituents; and Lord Goderich is promoted from Huddersfield, to represent the largest constituency of England. Against the retirement of Mr. Warner and Captain Scobell, on account of their support of Mr. Cobden's motion, may be placed the flight of Mr. Massey, one of the subordinate members of the Government, from Newport, and the opposition offered to Mr. Chambers at Hertford.

But it is in Manchester, Carlisle, and Oxford, where the contest between opposing principles threatens to be most severe. In the great capital of the manufacturing districts, a determined effort is to be made, by the admirers of the Premier's foreign policy, to eject Mr. Bright and Mr. Gibson, and by the aid of a lavish expenditure of money,—a fund of 10,000*l.* having been already subscribed,—to bring in Sir John Potter and the Vice-President of the Board of Trade. It remains to be seen to what extent the Liberal electors of Radical Manchester sympathise with the views of Mr. Lowe, who has told his Kidderminster consti-

tuents that "the country has now another opportunity of returning to the House of Commons another body of members pledged to progress, not selected by the mere electioneering cries of the suffrage, the ballot, or any other cry." Manchester is asked to prefer the negotiations of a Ministerial subordinate to the reform principles and tried services of her present representatives! Can any one doubt the response? Sir James Graham at Carlisle, like Lord John Russell in London, declines to associate himself with a Ministerial candidate, and even leaves his former friends to make their own choice. But his constituents have so little disposition to ostracise the distinguished Peelite that he has received a vote of confidence from one of the most crowded meetings ever held in the city, and will, in all probability, be triumphantly re-elected. Another accomplished member of the Peelite party who voted against Ministers, has been represented as likely to withdraw, in consequence of the popular indignation. Mr. Cardwell, however, has visited his constituents at Oxford, issued his address, and promises to go to the poll, though he is opposed by two gentlemen professing a more Radical creed than himself.

It does not appear that Mr. Lowe's insidious advice finds acceptance anywhere, except in Conservative constituencies, and among Conservative candidates, who deem it politic to conceal their Tory principles under the guise of general professions of a desire for "progress." There never was an election when Liberal constituencies were less disposed to be satisfied with unmeaning phrases. Reformers now require specific promises as the test of political integrity, and leave the cant cry of "Civil and Religious Liberty," to be caught up by Derbyite candidates. Mr. Raikes Currie, the new candidate for the City of London, has discovered that the cry of "Palmerston for ever" will not suffice even in the commercial capital of the world, which has just passed a vote of confidence in the head of the Government. He seeks to conciliate support by stating that a thorough-going Radical, Mr. Gilpin, is likely to succeed him at Northampton, and by quoting from the address of Sir R. Bethell, who tells his Aylesbury constituents that among the subjects which must be dealt with by the new Parliament are the extension of the franchise, the reduction of expenditure, the completion of religious liberty, the total extinction of Church-rates, the removal of Jewish disabilities, the abolition of the ecclesiastical courts, and an enlarged system of education for the people.

The prospects of parliamentary reform and religious equality on the eve of the election are highly encouraging. Very few, indeed, of the gallant band who have fought so ably and perseveringly the battle of Church-rate abolition, of ecclesiastical disendowment, and of the removal of religious tests, are likely to be lost to the new Parliament. There seems every reason to hope that such members of the Religious Liberty party, as Messrs. Anderson, Crossley, Pilkington, Pellatt, Kershaw, Bell, Barnes, Crook, Hadfield, Black, Clay, Laslett, Fox, Dunlop, Biggs, J. B. Smith, and Miall, will be re-elected, to resume the struggle so auspiciously commenced. Their number is not unlikely to be strengthened by the addition of Mr. John Remington Mills, Mr. Gilpin, Sir S. Trelawny, Mr. Hardcastle, and other efficient supporters of religious equality, who will more than fill the void created by the retirement of Mr. Heyworth, Mr. Coffin, Mr. Heywood, and Mr. Duncan. Whilst the pure Whigs are losing strength in every direction, Independent Liberals are springing up in all directions. To the names of Mr. Cobden, Mr. Bright, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Roe buck, Lord Goderich, and Mr. Williams, there is the prospect of adding those of General Thompson, Mr. Coningham, the Hou. A. Gordon, Mr. M'Cullagh, Mr. Watkin, and Serjeant Parry. Whilst the Radical candidates are of a more reliable class, there are signs that the old Liberals are disposed, under the pressure of reviving zeal for reform, to enlarge their creed. On the whole, the expanding programme of Whig candidates, the increase of gentlemen advocating Voluntary views, the strong position of Radical Reformers, and the chances of rescuing several counties from Tory domination, holds out the promise of a more progressive House of Commons than has been elected since the Reform Bill era.

The Royal Literary Fund held its annual general meeting on Wednesday; Earl Stanhope in the chair. The report showed a small balance. On the motion that the report be received, Mr. Dilke renewed the opposition of last year, and moved a long amendment, condemning the entire system of the management of the fund. He was answered by Mr. Robert Bell. Thereupon arose a sharp debate; Mr. Dickens and Mr. Forster supporting Mr. Dilke, and Mr. Monckton Milnes and the Bishop of Oxford standing by Mr. Bell. Finally, the amendment was negatived by 69 to 11, and the report was received.

THE GENERAL ELECTION.

We believe the session will close at latest on Monday next, and that the proclamation dissolving Parliament will immediately follow.

We understand that a private meeting of the Administrative Reformers was held in the City yesterday, with Mr. Roebuck in the chair, for the important purpose of agreeing upon an address to the electors of the United Kingdom. The outlines of an address were submitted to the meeting, containing a programme of Reform principles, which included the Vote by Ballot, Extension of the Franchise, and Triennial Parliaments. As might have been supposed, some of the older members of the society resisted such declarations upon the ground that Administrative Reform only was the purpose for which they came together. The Chairman, however, intimated that he had consented to act as President entirely upon the understanding that some practical suggestions would be enunciated as a means of reforming the House of Commons, and with the ultimate view of rendering the Executive Government more efficient. The address was unanimously sanctioned, the dissentients not deeming it their duty to hold up their hands against it.—*Morning Star*.

The Society for Promoting the adoption of the Ballot have also issued an address to the electors, in which they say:—

We therefore counsel you to use every exertion at the coming election to secure the Ballot being made the law of the land, by the Parliament now to be elected. Require of every candidate who seeks your suffrages, that he pledge himself to vote for the annual motion for the ballot, and that he will use his influence with any Ministry he may support to induce them to make the ballot a Government measure.

In the information we have given below we have done our best to give an accurate list of candidates, so far as they appear important and without repeating the information given by us last week. The changes which are daily taking place make it impossible to give a list of candidates with any approach to accuracy. Our information is not confined to newspaper reports, but is frequently the result of private communications. In thanking our friends who have sent to us, we take the opportunity of saying we shall be much obliged to any of our readers who will kindly inform us of what is passing in their neighbourhood, especially in relation to questions in which they and we are alike interested.

AYLESBURY.—A Conservative candidate has appeared—a Mr. T. T. Bernard, of Winchenden Priory, who bases his claims chiefly on local grounds. The two present members have also issued addresses soliciting re-election. Sir R. Bethell says:—

I trust that you and the other constituencies will elect men who are earnest and sincere supporters of a Liberal policy. In the next Parliament great and important subjects must be dealt with.

Mr. Layard says in defence of his vote on Mr. Cobden's motion:—

I recorded my vote as a protest against a doctrine which appears to be sanctioned by our policy in all parts of the East, but which I believe to be as repugnant to morality as it is to good policy—the doctrine that, in dealing with Eastern nations, we are not bound by the same laws of right and wrong that govern the relations of Christian States. I am confident that the decision of the House of Commons will tend to raise the character of this country, and that the time will come when the people of England will unanimously admit that those to whom they confided their honour and fair fame faithfully discharged the trust reposed in them. While thus protesting against the origin of the war, I shall be ready to give the Government my best support in taking such measures as may be necessary to bring it to a conclusion consistent with the honour and true interests of this country. . . . But, in order fully to secure the blessings of peace, I am of opinion that the House of Commons should exercise a more direct control over our foreign policy, and over the power enjoyed by Ministers of involving the country in a war without the consent or knowledge of Parliament.

BATH.—Sir Arthur Hallam Elton, of Clevedon-court, High Sheriff of Somersetshire, has accepted the invitation of the Bath Liberals to come forward as a candidate for the seat vacated by the retirement of Captain Scobell into private life. In the course of Friday afternoon, Sir Arthur met the members of the Liberal Association, and gave a brief exposition of his political views. Mr. Tite stands with Sir Arthur, but there is some talk of bringing forward Mr. Henry Vincent.

BERKSHIRE.—A movement is in progress with the view of securing a more liberal representation of the county. The opposition will be directed against the return of Mr. G. H. Vansittart.

BIRMINGHAM.—There does not appear to be the slightest attempt made at an opposition to the re-election of Messrs. Muntz and Scholefield.

BODMIN.—Mr. James Wyld, of Charing-cross, has issued an address as a Liberal candidate. Mr. W. W. Michell and Mr. C. B. Graves Sawle, the sitting members, offer themselves for re-election. Mr. Whitehurst has issued an address in which he says:—

When a candidate for Bodmin in 1852, I advocated the abolition of the Church-rates and the ballot. Since that time, as a member of the Religious Liberty Society, I have taken part in promoting the abolition of Church-rates, and as one of the Executive Committee of the Ballot Society, I have for three years incessantly la-

boured to procure for the people of this country complete freedom of election.

BOLTON.—The addresses of the present members, Mr. Barnes and Mr. Crook, are out. There is no probability of any opposition, as the register is greatly in favour of the Reformers.

BOSTON.—Mr. Herbert Ingram again offers his services. His address will be found elsewhere. Mr. Cabell, the other sitting member, it is believed, will not again present himself. Mr. Adams, a gentleman of considerable local influence, intends, it is said, presenting himself. The advanced Liberals are on the look-out for a candidate.

BRADFORD.—An unexpected change has taken place here. Mr. T. Salt, of Saltaire, and Gen. Thompson were nominated, and had separate committees. Mr. Titus Salt has retired, and the only persons now before the electors are Mr. Wickham and General Thompson.

BRIDPORT.—Mr. E. T. Smith, lessee of Drury-lane Theatre, and proprietor of the *Sunday Times*, offers himself "to develop the great principle of civil and religious liberty."

BRIGHTON.—An influential meeting of the supporters of Admiral Sir G. B. Pechell took place on Friday, at which he was present, when a resolution in favour of his return was unanimously carried. Mr. Coningham is now the only candidate in opposition to Lord A. Hervey, as Sir G. B. Pechell's re-election may be regarded as almost certain. Professor Creasy has retired in Mr. Coningham's favour.

BRISTOL.—There has been a movement here to induce Sir S. M. Peto to come forward and oppose the re-election of Mr. H. Berkeley. It is promoted by some of the leaders of the Protestant and Temperance party, to whom Mr. Berkeley's conduct on religious matters and the Sunday Beer Bill has given deep offence. [We are in a position positively to state that Sir Samuel will not stand during the present election.]

BUCKS.—A rumour prevails that two gentlemen of Liberal principles will be started, in conjunction with the Hon. C. C. Cavendish, in opposition to Mr. Disraeli and Mr. Du Pre. Should such turn out to be true, one or both the Tory candidates, it is thought, will be ousted. Mr. Abram Darby, of Stoke-court, and Mr. Rice R. Clayton, are the gentlemen referred to as likely to become candidates.

BURY (LANCASHIRE).—Mr. T. Wrigley having declined to be nominated, R. N. Phillips, Esq., brother of Mr. Mark Phillips, formerly member for Manchester, has consented to be the Liberal candidate in opposition to Mr. Frederick Peel.

CAMBRIDGE (BOROUGH).—Mr. K. Macaulay, Q.C., has issued an address to the electors of this borough. Mr. Mowatt, one of the sitting members, retires at the close of the present Parliament. Colonel Adair, the other member, offers himself for re-election. Mr. J. Hibbert, a townsman, offers himself on Liberal principles, but a large number of electors desire a more thorough-going and efficient man. Lord Maidstone is spoken of as likely to come forward on the Conservative interest.

CAMBRIDGE (COUNTRY).—Lord George Manners, the Hon. E. T. Yorke, and Mr. Edward Ball, the sitting members, offer themselves for re-election. A Liberal candidate is spoken of in the person of Sir Henry Peyton, but he has not yet issued an address.

CARDIFF.—Mr. Walter Coffin has retired. At present Lieutenant-Colonel Stuart is the only candidate in the field, but the names of Mr. H. Thomas, Chairman of the Glamorganshire Quarter Sessions; Dr. J. N. Carne, of Dimlands Castle; and Mr. J. Batchelor, of Cardiff, are mentioned as probable candidates.

CARDIGAN (BOROUGH).—Mr. Edward Lewis Pryse, of Gogerddan, has issued his address to the electors of Cardigan borough. Mr. Pryse is said to be a thorough Liberal. The present member, Mr. John Lloyd Davies, retires. [Mr. Davies was the gentleman who especially distinguished himself in offering factious obstructions to the progress of the Church-rate Abolition Bill. His political extinction is therefore not a cause for sorrow.]

CARLISLE.—At a meeting of Liberal electors on Friday, it was announced that Sir James Graham declined to stand in conjunction with Mr. Ferguson, who had voted with Ministers on the Chinese question. Mr. Perronet Thompson, son of the gallant Free-trader, was accepted as a candidate in the place of Sir James, but there was a strong feeling that Sir James had been unfairly used, and that his retirement should not be regarded as the adhesion of Carlisle to Lord Palmerston. At an immense meeting held to hear Sir James Graham on Monday evening, a vote of confidence in the right honourable gentleman was carried with the greatest enthusiasm. Only six hands were held up against it. Sir James especially expressed his distrust of Lord Palmerston as a reformer.

CHATHAM.—Sir Frederick Smith has been again brought forward by the Conservatives. Mr. Romaine, C.B., the Liberal candidate, has commenced his canvass, and from the large amount of support he is promised, and the present state of the Liberal party, there is little doubt of his being elected. Sir Frederick Smith was returned for Chatham in 1852, but was unseated for bribery.

CITY OF LONDON.—On Thursday, Mr. Raikes Currie took farewell of his Northampton friends, and accepted the invitation to stand for London. Mr. Alderman Rose has issued an address announcing his intention to stand. In spite of the decision of the Liberation Registration Association on Monday week, excluding Lord John Russell from the City representation, his lordship is not disposed to submit to their fiat. On Wednesday night he issued his address, which appears elsewhere, announcing his intention to stand again. "M.P." writing to the *Daily News*, says:—

It is now certain that there will be a considerable accession to the number of earnest and independent Reformers in the House of Commons. If this be so, it is unnecessary to point out what must be the fate of the

no-principle government on a vote respecting the Chinese question, which will come before the House as soon as it assembles.

The true Reformers will rally round Lord John Russell and "the good old cause," and the Government already sees its danger, for it is understood that after having failed to "write down the reputation" of the noble member for London, by one of their own body, they are meanly attempting to propitiate him.

COVENTRY.—Besides Mr. Ellice and Sir Joseph Paxton, the present members, another Liberal candidate for the representation of this city is in the field in the person of Mr. Mellor, Q.C., of the Midland Circuit. He entirely approves of Lord Palmerston's conduct with reference to the China question, and attributes to him the successful termination of the late war.

DERBY.—Mr. Heyworth has retired. Mr. James, of the Chancery bar, and a connexion of Lord Belper's by marriage, has issued an address in which he professes Liberal principles, and says he shall support Lord Palmerston. Mr. Alderman Moss, it is understood, is also a candidate in the Liberal interest. Mr. Samuel Beale, of Russell-square, London, deputy chairman of the Midland Railway board, also comes forward.

DEVONPORT.—A large assemblage of the electors of East Stonehouse was held on Tuesday, Mr. Payne in the chair. After a very effective speech from Sir Erskine Perry, the following resolution was passed, with only two dissentients:—

That this meeting fully approve the public conduct and votes of Sir Erskine Perry during the present Parliament; that they appreciate the motives of his vote on the Chinese question, and they have full confidence that on his re-election, he will continue his efforts in the cause of social and political progress.

MR. W. J. LITTLE.—Mr. W. J. Little, solicitor, who spoke against Sir Erskine Perry, after the explanations of Sir Erskine, on the previous evening, publicly announced the withdrawal of opposition, and stated that he intends to support his re-election. At a meeting on Thursday, the Chairman (Dr. Tripe) announced a telegraphic despatch from Mr. Hayter, stating that Mr. Bernal Osborne (who had been invited to stand) would not contest the election with Sir Erskine Perry, believing that he would be a supporter of the Palmerston Administration. The announcement was received with loud cheers. Mr. Wilson, the secretary to the Treasury, has issued his address, and is likely to be re-elected with Sir Erskine Perry without opposition.

DORSET.—Mr. Foyer, Mr. H. Ker Seymer, and Mr. H. Sturt, the sitting members, come forward again. The Hon. W. H. B. Portman, member for Shaftesbury, and eldest son of Lord Portman, will contest the county on Liberal principles.

DOVER.—Mr. Rice retires. Mr. Bernal Osborne has been invited to fill the vacant seat, and Captain Rice, R.N., as a second Liberal candidate. Mr. Osborne has issued an address.

DUMFRIES.—Mr. James Hannay, of literary fame is a candidate for the representation of the Dumfries District of Burghs, against Mr. Ewart, and has issued an address.

EDINBURGH.—Mr. Adam Black is unopposed. Mr. Cowan retires and Mr. Brown Douglas has been induced to waive his claims in favour of Mr. Murray Dunlop, M.P. for Greenock. If Mr. Dunlop will not stand, Lord John Russell will be the Independent Committee's first candidate. It is not proposed to ask Lord John Russell to withdraw from London, but to make a double return to secure his seat, and if possible obtain his preference for Edinburgh. His lordship's name has been brought forward by Mr. Duncan McLaren, who applauds Lord John's Chinese vote, and looks forward to him as the prospective head of the real Reform party.

ESSEX (SOUTH).—Sir William Bowyer Smith (Conservative) offers himself for re-election. His address contains the following:—

I voted for Lord Palmerston's Government on the question relating to the difficulties at Canton because I believe the lives of British subjects, the interests of British commerce, and the honour of the British flag would be placed in peril by the success of Mr. Cobden's motion.

It is believed that a Liberal of some note might be carried for this constituency. The name of Mr. Warner, who has been ostracised from Norwich, has been mentioned.

FINSBURY.—On Friday night, a very crowded meeting was held at Islington, at which Mr. Serjeant Parry delivered an exposition of his political principles. He declared himself in favour of an extension of the suffrage to every man who could prove that he had a certain place of residence, of the admission of Jews to Parliament, and against the opening of public institutions on Sundays. He stated that he would not support Lord Palmerston through thick and thin, but he would support him against such a coalition as had been formed by Lord Derby. A resolution in favour of Serjeant Parry was carried by a large majority. He is addressing the electors in various parts of the borough. A new candidate is announced in the person of Mr. Wakeling, a solicitor. Mr. Wakeling is in favour of vote by ballot and the extension of the suffrage, but opposed to all religious endowments, and more especially that of the grant to Maynooth. He is an advocate of Sir W. Clay's measure for the total and unconditional repeal of Church-rates, and will support the admission of Jews to Parliament. Mr. Cox has also held a meeting of his supporters at Baker's rooms. His political views will be found in his address elsewhere. On the China question he thought the Government were right. That flag, which had all the glory of the Nelsons, Howes, and Vincents, should be protected. Should it be torn down and degraded by a dirty Mandarin? (No, no.) Various questions having been put to the candidate, a resolution in his favour, moved by Mr. Spackman, and seconded by Mr. Worth, was adopted. Mr. Cox is holding numerous meetings. We learn from an an-

nouncement signed by Dr. Waller, on behalf of a committee, that a requisition is in course of signature to Sir Samuel Morton Peto to become a candidate for the representation of this borough.

GLAMORGANSHIRE.—There are four candidates in the field for this county, the Lord-Lieutenant (Mr. Talbot) and Mr. H. Vivian on the Liberal side, and Mr. N. E. Vaughan and Mr. Godfrey Morgan on the Tory. A very severe contest is anticipated.

GLASGOW.—Three gentlemen are in the field soliciting the suffrages of the electors. Mr. Buchanan will probably be re-elected. The contest will therefore lie, so far as present appearances go, with Mr. Hastie and Mr. Robert Dalglish. There seems a pretty general wish among Mr. Hastie's friends that he should retire.—*Glasgow Commonwealth.*

Gloucester (City).—A Conservative candidate has appeared in the person of Sir Robert Walter Carden, alderman and magistrate of London, who says in his address to the electors:—

I am a Conservative in principle, a member of the Church of England, and a supporter of her institutions. I am at the same time an advocate for civil and religious liberty, and disposed to grant to all what I claim for myself—entire liberty of conscience. From the experience I have derived during the time I served the office of sheriff and magistrate of London, I am satisfied that our efforts ought to be more strenuously devoted to the consideration and improvement of the condition of the working and industrious classes of the people. It is a subject which has for a long time occupied my attention, and it is a labour of love which I should cheerfully unite with you in bringing to a state of practical utility in the city.

Sir R. Carden, as a Conservative, will stand in antagonism to Admiral Berkeley on the Canton question.

GREENOCK.—The Greenock electors, in public meeting assembled, on Friday night, resolved to send a deputation to Mr. Alexander Dunlop, requesting him again to allow himself to be nominated for the representation of that burgh. It would appear, according to one of the speakers, that the Greenock people are anxious to have a Dock Bill passed, and in consideration of Mr. Dunlop's expected services in promoting this measure they are disposed to forget his vote on the China question. Sir H. Rawlinson has been to Greenock, but did not meet with a very satisfactory reception.

GUILDFORD.—There is likely to be a very severe contest for this borough. Already there are five candidates, but the general opinion at present is that the present members (Messrs. Mangles and James Bell) will be re-elected.

HALIFAX.—The present members have issued separate addresses to the electors offering themselves for re-election. Both defend the conduct of the British representatives in China—Sir C. Wood absolutely, Mr. Crossley partially, and both promise to support Lord Palmerston. They will be opposed by Mr. Edwards, of Pye Nest, who also promises to support Lord Palmerston, notwithstanding his Tory relationships. Sir Charles Wood, in his address, has nothing to say on the social or political domestic questions of the day. He refers to the recent vote of the House of Commons, without imputing low motives to those opposed to him.

HANTS (NORTH).—The Speaker has issued his valedictory address. Mr. Beach, of Oakley-hall, "a Conservative, a cordial supporter of the agricultural interest, an uncompromising Protestant, supporter of any Government in maintaining the honour of the British flag, opposed to the late discreditable coalition of parties to displace the present Government," is a candidate for the suffrages of the electors of this division of the county of Hants.

HAVERFORDWEST.—Mr. W. Rees stands as a thorough Reformer and supporter of the ballot. A correspondent who vouches for his political integrity says, that there is every prospect of the success of Mr. Rees.

HEREFORDSHIRE.—The three sitting members, Messrs. Blakemore, King, and Hanbury, have issued addresses, declaring their determination again to solicit the suffrages of the electors. Messrs. King and Blakemore belong to the so-called "Protestant Tory" supporters of Lord Palmerston. Mr. Chandos Wren Hoskyns, an eminent writer on agricultural subjects, is a candidate in the Liberal interest.

HERTFORD.—Mr. Cowper and Mr. T. Chambers, the present Ministerial candidates, will probably (says the *Herts. Guardian*) be opposed by Sir Minto Farquhar, a Conservative. Mr. Chambers' extraordinary speech in the China debate has done him much harm.

HUDDERSFIELD.—A meeting of Liberal electors was held on Monday night to select a candidate to succeed Lord Goderich. Two names were introduced—Mr. Cobden and Mr. Akroyd, of Denton-park. The latter was rejected, and it was resolved unanimously to invite Mr. Cobden to become a candidate. His name was received with much enthusiasm.

HUNTINGDONSHIRE.—Opposition is threatened to Messrs. Fellowes and Rust. Mr. J. M. Heathcote, of Conington Castle, has issued an address, as a Liberal, and there is no doubt there will be a stirring contest.

HYTHE.—Mr. Brockman is likely to retire. Sir John Ramsden, a young and promising politician, has come forward, and will probably walk over the course. *Dover Chronicle.*

Ipswich.—Mr. Marshman, well known as "The Friend of India," and for his extensive knowledge of Indian affairs, has issued an address. He stands in conjunction with Mr. Adair, the present Liberal member, and upholds Lord Palmerston strongly in his China policy.

ISLE OF WIGHT.—The present Conservative member, Colonel Harcourt, is to be opposed by Mr. Augustus Clifford (son of Sir Augustus Clifford, and Lord Palmerston's private secretary), who avows himself an advocate of progressive reform, civil and reli-

gious liberty, the ballot, and extension of the franchise, more especially in the counties.

KENT (WEST).—Mr. C. W. Martin and Mr. Whatman, the Liberal candidates, have issued a joint address.

KIDDERMINSTER.—Mr. Lowe has to meet a formidable opponent in the person of Mr. William Boycott, whose political opinions may be stated to be Conservative-Radical rather than Liberal-Conservative. Mr. Boycott's popularity is, however, principally owing to his personal character. Mr. Lowe has issued his address to this constituency. There is not in it a line relating to domestic affairs, or to reform of any kind.

KNARESBOROUGH.—A requisition is in course of signature to Mr. Westhead, one of the Liberal candidates at the last election, and has received eighty signatures.

LAMBETH.—Mr. Charles Pearson has retired; his "official" and personal friends having urged that he was not strong enough to serve both in the City and in Parliament, he speedily withdrew. Mr. Williams addressed a crowded meeting of the electors on Wednesday evening, at the Horns Tavern. Mr. F. Doulton occupied the chair, and reminded the electors that they were about to choose the men to whom the affairs of the nation would be entrusted for the next seven years. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Williams, in the course of his address, said, in reference to the Chinese question, much had been said about a coalition, but he could honestly say that he never told any man how he intended to vote. If by the vote he had recorded upon that important question he had given offence to any one of his supporters, he could only say that it was an error of the head, and not of the heart. When he gave his vote he did not think anything about Lord Palmerston or any one else, but merely gave it according to his conviction.

Mr. Kintray asked the honourable gentleman if, on being returned again, he would support Lord Palmerston; and, if so, on what principle? (Hear, hear.) Mr. Williams would give every possible support to Lord Palmerston, but he would not desert great public principles in his service. (Loud cheers.) For instance, there was the 10*l.* Locke King motion; Lord Palmerston had voted against that. (Hear, hear.) Church-rates again, Sir Joshua Walmsley's motion—Lord Palmerston had voted against both. (Hear, hear.) On these occasions he could not go out in the same lobby with his lordship. (Loud cheers.) But wherever great principles were not involved there was no Minister he would support more willingly than Lord Palmerston. (Cheers.) Mr. E. Grove moved a vote of thanks to, and confidence in, Mr. Williams, which was seconded and much approved by Mr. Ellington. Mr. Wade moved an amendment, to the effect that the explanations of the honourable member were unsatisfactory, and his reasons such as to deprive him of the confidence of the electors. After some further discussion the amendment was put, when only thirteen hands were held up in its favour. The chairman then put the original resolution, which was carried almost unanimously, only one hand being held up against it. On Monday there was a crowded meeting at the Horns to receive Mr. W. A. Wilkinson, who entered into an elaborate justification of his vote on the Chinese question, and declared that, in his opinion, the Chinese had become "intolerable." He did not think that Lord Palmerston was a good Reformer, but he (Mr. Wilkinson) was content to take what he could get, and would support Lord Palmerston as one of the most popular men and fit to carry on the government we have. Mr. Wilkinson spoke amid mingled uproar and applause, and a resolution in his favour was ultimately carried. Mr. Roupell, of Roupell-park, Brixton, a very advanced Liberal, and an ardent supporter of Lord Palmerston, has offered himself to the electors. His address appears elsewhere. The committee of Mr. Roupell is formed and already in operation, and is organising for immediately canvassing the electors. There will be a meeting of his friends and supporters on Wednesday (this) evening at Hawkestone Hall, Waterloo-road.

LANCASTER.—Four candidates are in the field, two of whom are Conservatives, and two Liberals. The Conservative candidates are Mr. W. I. Garnett, of Bleasdale Tower, Garstang, and Mr. R. Gladstone, of Manchester; while Mr. S. Gregson, the present member, and Mr. R. B. Armstrong, Recorder of Manchester, represent the Liberal interest.

LEEDS.—There has been much difficulty in choosing a Liberal colleague to the Right Hon. M. T. Baines. At a large meeting on Friday Mr. Carbutt, and Mr. Forster, worsted manufacturer of Otley, were put forward. The former is a Dissenter and Voluntary Educationist; the latter a Liberal Churchman, Reformer, and State Educationist. The majority voted for Mr. Forster. The split seems to have arisen on the education question. Both candidates have withdrawn, and at a meeting on Monday, a committee of selection, consisting of five, was appointed to select a suitable gentleman, who will be introduced as early as possible to a general meeting of the Liberal electors.

LEICESTER.—A private meeting of electors opposed to Sir Joshua Walmsley has been held, and Mr. J. D. Harris has been induced to sanction the presentation of a requisition to him. It is said that Sir Joshua Walmsley is invited by a requisition, signed by 1,350 electors, and which would have been considerably augmented had it been known at the time of the canvass that an election was so near. A numerous meeting of electors has unanimously adopted Sir Joshua Walmsley and Mr. John Biggs as the two candidates on the Liberal interest.

LEICESTERSHIRE (NORTH).—Mr. Frewen has again intimated his intention of presenting himself for the suffrages of the electors of North Leicestershire on anti-Maynooth principles.

LEITH BURGH.—Mr. William Millar has come forward to oppose the Lord-Advocate in these burghs.

LISKEARD.—The Hon. A. Gordon, who starts on

advanced independent Liberal principles, contests the borough of Liskeard with Mr. R. W. Grey, who is Lord Palmerston's man. At a meeting on Friday a resolution was carried, with one or two dissentients, adopting him as the independent Liberal candidate.

LIVERPOOL.—The contest on the coming election promises to be very severe, and both parties are sanguine of success. Upwards of 4,000 new voters are on the register, and this fact causes much speculation as to the result. The Liberal party are at present determined to concentrate their strength upon Mr. J. C. Ewart, although many of them are desirous of sharing their votes with Mr. Horsfall, who is a favourite with both parties. On Monday, there was a meeting of some 5,000 persons to support the Tory candidates, Messrs. Horsfall and Turner.

MANCHESTER.—Mr. Bright was at Rome when he received the news that his Manchester friends would again put him forward. He instantly replied by telegraph, that he accepted the decision of the committee. At a meeting of this body on Tuesday, Mr. George Wilson read the following extract from a letter written by Mr. Bright, at Rome, on the 22nd February, to Mr. Vaughan, his brother-in-law:—

And now about my health. Nobody supposes that anything is the matter with me, I seem so well; and I can do generally what other people do when they are doing nothing but to amuse themselves. I am, however, much better: reading, writing, or talking do not harm me now; and, with some interruptions, I feel in better spirits, and as if time, and not a long time perhaps, would restore the tone of the system. It has been a terrible disappointment to be thus exiled, and at such a time, and when questions of such interest are being discussed at home. But I try, not always with success, to resign myself to what I cannot escape from.

The local "Opposition" party at Manchester held a meeting in the Corn Exchange on Friday; Alderman Neild in the chair. Among those who took part in the proceedings, were Mr. J. A. Turner, Mr. Oliver Heywood, and Mr. Jeremiah Garnett. It was resolved that Manchester ought to have an opportunity of declaring whether its opinions have been duly represented for the last ten years; and further, that Mr. Lowe and Sir John Potter should be formally requested to contest the borough. One of the metropolitan mouthpieces of this party boastfully announces that they have already subscribed "the princely sum" of 10,000*l.* to oust Messrs. Bright and Gibson. A requisition is to be immediately got up.

MARYLEBONE.—In this borough, there were two meetings on Wednesday. One, held at the Eagle Tavern, Camden Town, voted unlimited confidence in Sir Benjamin Hall. The second, consisting of the borough Political and Parochial Association, was held at the Coliseum Hotel, Portland-road. It declared Lord Ebrington "unfit to represent the borough of Marylebone," and pledged itself to vote for those candidates only who will "pledge themselves to lessen, if possible, the powers of the Poor-law Board." No candidate in opposition to the noble lord has yet been found. On Monday, there was a meeting at the Court House "to express confidence in the present Government and disapproval of the factious opposition which it has met in the House of Commons." Among those present were Sir B. Hall and Mr. J. Bell. Mr. D'Ifanger, moved a resolution in accordance with the object of the meeting; which, being duly seconded, Mr. Langham moved, as an amendment, "That the thanks of this meeting be given to Mr. Cobden, and the majority who voted with him on the Canton question," which was seconded amid much uproar and confusion; and after a few observations from Mr. J. Bell, the original motion was carried by a narrow majority.

MAYO (COUNTY).—Captain Palmer, son of Sir Roger Palmer, is the Conservative candidate for the representation of Mayo, in which county his father holds immense estates. The sitting members will, of course, solicit a renewal of their lease. Mr. G. H. Moore is the special *protégé* of Archbishop M'Hale, while Mr. Ouseley Higgins is more generally popular with the gentry, Whig and Tory.

MIDDLESEX.—The Hon. George Byng is the new candidate expectant. Lord Robert Grosvenor is in the field, but Mr. Osborne has retired. Lord Robert Grosvenor, in announcing his intention of again offering himself to the electors, has taken the occasion, in consequence of the dissatisfaction given by his lordship's voting in favour of Mr. Cobden's motion, to endeavour to justify that vote.

MINISTERIAL DEFEAT AT PORTSMOUTH.—A meeting was summoned at Portsmouth on Wednesday, at the instance of Viscount Monck. The noble viscount asked the electors to evince their confidence in Lord Palmerston's Government, of which he is a member, by re-electing him as their representative. A resolution of confidence was met by a counter motion, insisting upon a pledge in favour of an extension of the suffrage and vote by ballot. The first resolution was supported by about 150 persons out of 1,200; the second was carried by a vast majority. Nevertheless, there are no opponents to the sitting members, Sir F. Baring and Lord Monck.

NEWCASTLE-ON-Tyne.—There is every prospect that the Liberal party in this borough will bring forward a candidate of more advanced opinions than either of the sitting members, Messrs. Ridley and Headland. Ought such a Radical borough to put up with two Whigs?

NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.—RETIREMENT OF MR. MASSEY.—A correspondent writes:—

Our member, Mr. Massey, has been to Newport, and you may judge of the kind of encouragement he met with, to again offer himself as a candidate for the representation, by the fact that his address, sent down to be printed, has been suppressed. The election committee, appointed at a public meeting on Monday last, have, moreover, declined unanimously to take him up. He appears to have come hither very sanguine of success,

but our political atmosphere soon chilled his expectation. Some of his votes, or no-votes, were much objected to—such as his absence on the division upon Mr. Miall's motion, his opposition to Mr. Heywood's amendment in the Cambridge University Bill, and his absence when the division took place for re-inserting the struck-out clause; his opposition to Mr. Ewart's motion, and his recent absence on the division upon Mr. Locke King's motion.

Captain Mangels, the chairman of the Royal Mail Packet Company, and Mr. C. Buxton, a son of Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, Bart., have consented to stand as the Liberal candidates. Mr. Keenard, the present Conservative member, stands again. We perceive by the honourable member's second address (*says the Hants Independent*) that he has thrown a sop to the Dissenting portion of the constituency, by evincing a determination to support Sir W. Clay's motion for the total repeal of Church-rates.

NORFOLK (EAST).—Major-General Windham and Sir E. N. Buxton, the Liberal candidates, have issued their address to the electors. Both gentlemen express their intention to give a general support to the Government of Lord Palmerston. The addresses of Sir H. J. Stracey and Mr. H. N. Barroughes, the Conservative candidates, have also appeared.

NORTHAMPTON.—The Liberals of this borough have not yet chosen their candidate for the seat from which Mr. Rejkes Currie retires. Mr. Charles Gilpin addressed a large meeting of the electors on Friday evening. The local *Mercury* says: "He evidently made a very favourable impression on his hearers, and a very cordial vote of thanks was accorded to him." Mr. R. Currie, at the City meeting yesterday, said Mr. Gilpin was the accepted Liberal candidate for Northampton.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE (SOUTH).—There will be a keen contest in this division of the county. Both parties (Lord Althorp and the present members, Col. Vyse and Mr. R. Knightly) are marshalling their forces.

NORTH LANCASHIRE.—Lord Cavendish, eldest son of the Earl of Burlington, is to be placed in nomination for the seat vacant by Mr. Heywood's retirement. Colonel Wilson Patten offers himself for re-election.

NORTH RIDING.—The Hon. J. C. Dundas, formerly M.P. for York, stands against Mr. Cayley. Mr. Dundas announces himself to be favourable to the general policy of Lord Palmerston's Administration.

NORWICH.—There was a public meeting on Thursday evening to hear a statement of opinion from Viscount Bury and Mr. H. W. Schneider, the Liberal candidates for the representation of the city. Mr. E. Willett presided over the meeting, which was numerously attended. Both gentlemen, having addressed the meeting, were accepted as the candidates of the Liberal party. Mr. Tillett said he was extremely sorry that the honest and conscientious vote of Mr. Warner, the present Liberal member, on the Chinese question had separated from the Liberals of Norwich one of the most truthful, patriotic, and amiable men that ever entered the city. It had been his painful duty to advise Mr. Warner to retire, that he might be saved from the humiliation of defeat. [Mr. Warner, it will be remembered, voted with the majority in the division on Mr. Cobden's motion.] The meeting closed with three hearty cheers for Lord Palmerston. The Conservative party held another meeting on Thursday evening at the Norfolk Hotel, and Sir Samuel Bignold delivered another address. No second Conservative candidate has yet, however, appeared. The excitement in Norwich increases, and there is every probability of a severe contest. The *Norfolk News* says:—

We cannot find words to express the regret with which we announce that the amiable, truthful, noble-spirited Edward Warner has, for a time at least, taken leave of the citizens of Norwich. He gave an honest, but unpopular vote; so unpopular, that no explanation—not even an apology, even had one been tendered—would have conciliated the larger number of the offended. He suffers in a mild form the penalty of martyrdom. Another Aristides has been ostracised, and the people by their prejudices have deprived themselves of another friend. The mania is too strong—there is no arguing with it. A frenzy is on the people, and it will have its way. When it is off, they will look back with painful and unavailing regret on the mischief they have done. Mr. Warner sees that discretion is the better part of valour. He might have been returned with the aid of his political opponents. The Conservative nominee would have been delighted to have saved himself by a compromise; but Mr. Warner has no personal ends to serve.

OXFORD (CITY).—Mr. Cardwell has issued his address. He visited a number of his constituents on Saturday, with a view of giving individual explanations of his recent votes. The right honourable gentlemen, although having lost the support of some of his former friends, has gained many fresh ones by his praiseworthy conduct in the Chinese affair. His address has given great satisfaction by its manly and straightforward tone. He defends his vote on Mr. Cobden's motion in the following terms:—

The speech from the Throne invited our attention to transactions of a lamentable kind, which had recently taken place in China, and papers on that subject were submitted to us for our decision. If the Government had then announced the intention, which has since been made known, of sending out a superior authority to China, the motion which was actually made would have been quite unnecessary, and I, at least, should not have voted for it. No such intention was expressed, and Parliament was obliged, either to approve or to condemn extreme severities resorted to by the Plenipotentiary of China, in a manner wholly unauthorised by the spirit of his instructions from the Home Government. In such a case every man is bound to express by his vote the sincere conviction of his own judgment. I gave my vote solely from a sense of duty: to have acted otherwise would have been to violate my own conscience, and to forfeit my own independence.

Mr. J. H. Langston, one of the present members, also comes forward again to solicit a continuance of the confidence of the electors. On Thursday evening, Sergeant Gazelee addressed about one thousand persons, making known his political principles, which are Palmerstonian. He advocated the extension of the suffrage, economical expenditure, vote by ballot, an equitable adjustment of the Income-tax, triennial Parliaments, abolition of Church-rates, and reform of every kind. Mr. Charles Neate's friends are determined that he shall go to the poll, if he has a chance of securing a majority of the Liberal votes, and to ascertain that fact a requisition to that gentleman is being numerously signed, and a challenge from Mr. Neate's party to that of Sergeant Gazelee has been given to do the same; and whichever has the greatest number of signatures is to become the candidate of the Liberal party; the other, of course, to retire.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY.—We believe we are in a position to state that the Marquis of Blandford will be brought forward to contest the University, and we trust with success.—*Oxford Chronicle*.

PAISLEY.—Mr. Humphrey Crum Ewing has been brought forward for Paisley, in opposition to Mr. Archibald Hastie.

PERTH.—The Hon. A. Kinnaid again offers himself for the burgh of Perth.

PLYMOUTH.—Mr. Roundell Palmer has issued a circular stating that he shall not offer himself again to the electors of Plymouth. The Liberals will resolve to unite and elect a more suitable colleague for Mr. Collier." On Saturday, Mr. White, a silk merchant of London, mentioned as being largely engaged in trade with China, was before the committee. But after due deliberation they have determined to invite Mr. John Remington Mills, Chairman of the Committee of Deputies, and we believe the invitation has been accepted.

PONTFRACT.—The names and addresses of three Liberal candidates are before the electors—viz., those of Mr. Monckton Milnes, Mr. Wood, and Mr. Oliveira.

RADNOR BOROUGHS.—Sir G. C. Lewis will be returned again without opposition. He has always received the united Tory and Whig votes.

RECEPTION OF MR. W. S. LINDSAY, M.P., AT TYNEMOUTH.—One of the largest political meetings ever held at Tynemouth took place on Wednesday, at the New Assembly Rooms. Mr. Lindsay gave a full explanation of his vote on the Chinese question. He declared his inability to support Lord Palmerston when he opposed the ballot, the abolition of Church-rates, an extension of the suffrage, and administrative and consular reform. He accused Lord Palmerston of not having acted in a straightforward manner with regard to local burdens on shipping and passing tolls. His reception was most cordial. Mr. Bainbridge, barrister, strenuously defended the conduct of Sir John Bowring and Lord Palmerston. Nevertheless he would let bygones be bygones. The old watchwords were raised in the camp of Toryism again, and if the Liberals failed in this issue they would have those back to power who were opposed to all progress, and no one would vote more heartily for Mr. Lindsay against a Tory on the day of election than himself. (Loud and long-continued cheering.) Mr. Dryden, ship-owner, said if they had to be plunged into war and turmoil continually, where was the money to come from to pay for it? Out of their pockets. Peace suited this country best; and let them nail their colours to the mast-head, and support their member, who voted for economy and retrenchment. The resolution pledging the meeting to support Mr. Lindsay was put, and a forest of hands was held up for it; only four voted against it. The vote was followed with immense cheering. The Tories have quarrelled amongst themselves, and their organisation is completely broken up.

ROCHDALE.—At a meeting of Mr. Miall's friends, on Friday night, it was resolved to invite him to meet the electors without delay. The only symptom of opposition apparent is a placard calling upon the electors not to pledge themselves to Mr. Miall, as a "more eligible candidate" will be presented. The latest emanation from the Conservative camp is that Sir A. Ramsay will not stand unless expenses are guaranteed. We believe he is in the town endeavouring to ascertain his chances in a contest.

ROXBURGHSHIRE.—The *Glasgow Mail* says that the appearance once more of the Hon. J. E. Elliot, of the Minto family, as a candidate for the county has occasioned some surprise. He opposed Mr. Heywood's proposition to admit Dissenters to Oxford degrees, and Sir W. Clay's Church-rate Abolition Bill.

SALFORD.—Mr. Cobden is to address the electors of Salford to-morrow evening. At a meeting of electors, held on Monday morning, at the Town Hall, Salford, and which was called to nominate a candidate favourable to the Government foreign policy and to Protestant principles, a requisition was proposed, soliciting Sir Elkanah Armitage to offer himself. An amendment, however, was carried by a large majority, substituting Mr. Oliver Heywood's name for that of Sir Elkanah Armitage. There are more than 4,000 electors.

SHEFFIELD.—Representations having been made to Mr. Roebuck, M.P., that in voting for Mr. Cobden's motion on the war with China, he had given great dissatisfaction to his constituents, the honourable member went down to Sheffield, and addressed the people in Paradise-square on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Hadfield, though not announced, was also present. Mr. Alderman Dunn presided, and the meeting numbered from 10,000 to 12,000 persons. Both the honourable members having justified their conduct in voting against Government on the China question, and asked for a renewal of the confidence of the constituency, Mr. Alderman William Fisher said that after what they had heard from Mr. Roebuck, confirmed by

Mr. Hadfield, they would readily pass this resolution:—

That this meeting entertains a grateful sense of the many valuable services which Mr. Roebuck has rendered to the country during the twenty-five years of his parliamentary life, and especially of his manly and independent conduct during the years which he has represented this borough in the House of Commons, and now requests he will again become a candidate to represent this borough in the ensuing Parliament.

The motion was seconded by Mr. R. Leader, and carried with only one dissentient. A resolution of confidence in Mr. Hadfield was also adopted. Messrs. Roebuck and Hadfield have now a joint committee so that Mr. Overend's chances as a Conservative supporter of Lord Palmerston are small. On Monday there was a great monster open-air meeting still larger than that of Wednesday. Some 15,000 persons were present. Mr. Overend expressed his confidence that Sheffield would return him along with Mr. Roebuck, with whom he (Mr. Overend) was more allied in politics than the bigoted sectarian, Mr. Hadfield. It was said that Mr. Roebuck had coalesced with Mr. Hadfield; what did that mean but that Hadfield had solicited Roebuck to carry him on his back? On a show of hands, about one-third of the meeting declared in favour of Mr. Overend.

SOUTHAMPTON.—We have much pleasure in announcing that the recent dissensions among the Liberal party in this borough have been so far put an end to, as to place all opposition to the return of the two present members (Messrs. Willcox and Weguelin) entirely out of the question.—*Hants Independent*.

SOUTHWAKE.—A new candidate has started for this borough, Mr. J. P. Locke, one of the City Pleaders, who has been connected with the city and borough for some years.

SOUTH DURHAM is represented by Mr. Farrer and Lord Harry Vane, a Tory and Whig. Thus, the constituency is neutralised. We believe there is a strong feeling amongst the Liberal electors that a second candidate should be brought forward, and it is believed that such a man as Mr. Henry Pease, of Darlington, might be returned, if invited to stand on requisition. We believe there is to be a meeting of the local committee this evening, and a public meeting of electors on Friday, to consider the present state of the representation, and to take steps, if thought desirable, for bringing forward another candidate.

STIRLING BOROUGHS.—Sir J. Anderson had announced his intention to retire, but, in compliance with requisitions presented to him by deputations from Stirling and Dunfermline, he has consented to stand. His return is considered certain.

STOCKPORT.—Messrs. Smith and Kershaw are likely to be re-elected. The Tories have not a chance.

STROUD.—Both Mr. Horsman and Mr. Scrope express their determination to vote for the total abolition of the Income-tax in 1850, and advocate the ballot, abolition of Church-rates, extension of the suffrage, law and administrative reform, free-trade, and economy in the national expenditure. They are likely to be re-elected without opposition.

SUSSEX (EAST).—The Hon. W. H. Frederick Cavendish, of Compton-place, Eastbourne, has become a candidate, in conjunction with Mr. J. G. Dodson, in opposition to the re-election of Mr. Fuller and Viscount Pevensey.

SUNDERLAND.—It is stated that Mr. Edward Backhouse, jun., a Quaker, will be brought forward. If so, he will make the fifth candidate in the field. At present there are Mr. H. W. Fenwick (Radical), Mr. R. Hoare (Whig), Mr. Ralph Walters (Radical), and Mr. George Hudson (Conservative).

SWANSEA.—Mr. C. H. Smith retires, and Mr. Dillwyn, who has represented the borough since 1854, is master of the field.

TAVISTOCK.—Sir J. S. Trelawny, Mr. G. Byng, and Mr. S. Carter, are before the electors, on the Liberal interest. Dr. Phillimore's intentions are not yet known. Sir J. S. Trelawny ought to be a member of a Parliament that extinguishes Church-rates.

TAUNTON.—The second seat for this borough will be contested by Mr. Arthur Mills (Conservative) and the Hon. W. F. Campbell (Liberal), son of Lord Campbell, who was elected for the city of Cambridge in 1847 with Mr. Adair. On Thursday the Hon. W. F. Campbell visited Taunton, and on the following morning offered himself as a candidate in opposition to Mr. Mills. Mr. Campbell, in his address, professes extreme Liberal opinions, and is in favour of the ballot. On the great political question of the day he is decided with the present Government.

TIVERTON.—Lord Palmerston has declared that he will again stand for this borough, and the chairman of his committee has intimated that previous to his lordship's arrival the committee will canvass the electors on his behalf. Sir J. Heron Maxwell, a Conservative and anti-Maynooth man, has issued an address, declaring that he will contest the borough with the Premier. Mr. Heathcote's grandson is likely to stand in his place.

TIPPERARY.—At the close of the poll on Friday, the O'Donoghue had a gross majority of 729 over, Mr. Waldron. This is a tenant-right triumph.

WAKEFIELD.—There promises to be a smart contest for this borough. The candidates are Mr. J. C. D. Charlesworth (Conservative), and Mr. H. Leatham (Liberal).

WARRINGTON.—Mr. Greenhall offers himself again. Mr. Greenhall voted in favour of Mr. Locke King's motion, and along with Mr. Cobden on the China question.

WESTMINSTER.—On Friday evening a meeting of the electors residing in the parish of St. James's, Piccadilly, was held, to consider the propriety of inviting Mr. Westerton, the churchwarden of St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, to become a candidate. Mr. J. Beal, who was in the chair, stated that a deputation had waited on Mr. Westerton, and been informed by him that he would come forward if a proper requisition

was presented to him. Mr. Beal added, that a requisition had been set on foot, and had received nearly 1,000 signatures. Mr. Westerton had informed the deputation that he was in favour of making the qualification for the suffrage a residential one under certain regulations; that he would do his best to adapt the Church of England to the necessities of the times, and to expel from it the doctrines and practices of the Tractarian party. He would advocate the repeal of all taxes on knowledge, and the substitution, wherever possible, of indirect for direct taxation. He would give his support to Lord Palmerston's Government on the China question. A resolution in favour of Mr. Westerton was carried with only two dissentients.

WEST RIDING.—Lord Goderich has consented to be put in nomination for the riding, and the probability is that he and Mr. Edmund Denison will be returned without opposition.

WEST SURREY.—Mr. H. Currie is a candidate for the vacancy caused by the retirement of the Conservative, Mr. Evelyn. In his address he says: "Because Lord Palmerston realises my idea of a liberal Conservative, I am, with your favour, prepared to give him my independent support." Why is not a Liberal brought forward for this constituency?

WICK.—Mr. Samuel Laing is likely to be opposed in the Northern Burghs, but there is no danger of his not being returned.

WOODSTOCK.—The Marquis of Blandford offers himself to this constituency, where, of all places in England, he may reasonably expect to encounter a minimum of opposition. He is a Conservative supporter of Lord Palmerston.

WORCESTER.—Mr. Laslett having announced his intention to retire, the local Parliamentary and Financial Reform Association held a meeting on Friday night, at which Mr. Laslett attended, defended his vote on Mr. Cobden's motion at some length, and declared that if it met with the approval of the meeting he was still ready to stand for the city. Accordingly, a resolution was passed expressing approval of his conduct, and pledging the meeting to support him. The same meeting passed a similar vote in favour of Mr. Ricardo, who voted in favour of the Government. Alderman Sidney, of London, still announces his intention to stand.

YARMOUTH.—We observe with pleasure that Mr. McCullagh and Mr. Watkin are pursuing an active and united canvass, and we heartily wish them success. Indeed, we are confident that, if no undue influences are used, Sir E. K. Lacon and Colonel Vereker will seek the suffrages of the good folks of Yarmouth in vain.—*Norfolk News.*

Foreign and Colonial.

THE WAR WITH CHINA.

The advices from Canton received by the Overland Mail, bring down our intelligence to the end of January. At that date, one of the natural results of a precipitate resort to hostilities, without adequate means to carry them on, had developed itself. Admiral Seymour, after destroying the western suburb of the city—an operation which appears to have involved the conflagration of some seven thousand dwelling-places—had been compelled to abandon his position off Canton and the Dutch Folly. With a view to maintaining his communication with Hong Kong, and keeping open the passage of the river, the British commander had stationed the force under his orders at different points in the Canton river, the highest being at the Teetotum Fort, in the Macao passage, and the lowest at the Bogue Forts, close to the river mouth. The relative position of Canton and the Bocca Tigris are not so unlike those of London and the Nore. Admiral Seymour's problem is to keep the communication open along this river line until the arrival of the reinforcements which, as we know, are on their way. That he will be able to succeed in this object there is little reason to doubt.

The affair of "the poisonings" remains pretty nearly as it stood at the date of the last despatches. A-lun the baker—a name certainly of the worst omen where the adulteration of bread is concerned—had started for Macao on the morning when the alleged poisonings were discovered. He was pursued, brought back, examined, and committed with nine others to take his trial at the criminal sessions which are held monthly at Hong Kong.

Private letters from the Chinese Seas state that the baker at Hong Kong who had taken the lead in a conspiracy to poison the Europeans had been arrested, tried before a Council of War legally constituted, and convicted of an attempt to poison the English Chargé d'Affaires and his family. The man was condemned to death and shot, together with three of his accomplices. This example has produced a deep impression on the lower classes in Hong Kong.—*Post.*

In the fortnight that has elapsed since the date of the last despatches, no ground has been given for suspecting any repetition of an attempt so atrocious; the peace of Hong Kong does not appear to have been seriously disturbed; no complaints are made of any falling off in the supplies, nor has any intelligence been received of a nature to strengthen the apprehensions which nervous people had begun to entertain of concerted plans of insurrection by the Chinese against the European population, throughout the length and breadth of the Eastern seas.

At Singapore matters have settled down to something like quiet, the Chinese being afraid of the great military preparations that were made to punish them if they carried out their threat of exterminating the European residents.

Intelligence from Batavia states that a dispute has arisen between the British and the Japanese. Two English steamers have forced the port of Nagasaki.

The *Globe* says: "The force about to be concentrated at Hong Kong will consist of two brigades of infantry, composed of the 5th Fusiliers, now on their passage from the Mauritius, the 59th Regiment, now at Hong Kong, the 23rd Fusiliers, the 82nd, 90th, and 93rd Regiments, which will proceed as soon as the shipping arrangements are completed. This force will be further reinforced by four companies of artillery from Woolwich, 1,000 Marines, and 100 men of the Royal Engineers; while, in the shape of auxiliary corps, it will be accompanied by one battalion of the military train, and 200 men of the Medical Staff Corps. The Commander-in-Chief will be Major-General Ashburnham, C.B., who had a command in the Sutlej campaign; he goes out with the rank of lieutenant-general. The first brigade will be commanded by Major-General Sir Robert Garrett, K.C.B., now commanding a brigade at Gibraltar; and the second brigade by Major-General Stranbanzee, C.B., who holds a similar position in Dublin Garrison. Colonel Pakenham, C.B., who was adjutant-general of the Crimean army, will be the adjutant-general to the division, and Colonel Wetherall, C.B., late quartermaster-general of the Turkish Contingent, goes out in the same capacity to China. The *Times* understands that Major-General Pennefather's health is not sufficiently recovered from the illness he had contracted in the Crimea to admit of his assuming the command, as had been originally intended.

PERSIA AND INDIA.

The intelligence from Bushire by the Overland Mail, is to the 23rd of January. The general health of the army was good, and supplies were plentiful. No further military operations had taken place. General Outram had not yet arrived. The conferences between Sir J. Lawrence and Dost Mahomed broke up on the 28th of January, when the Ameer left for Cabul. It is asserted that a British Residency is about to be established at Candahar.

UNITED STATES.

In the Senate, on the 2nd, Mr. Cass presented the joint resolutions of the Legislature of Michigan on the subject of slavery in the territories, instructing their senators and requesting their representative to resist the admission of any more slave states into the Union. The Senate postponed the consideration of the joint resolutions until the 10th inst. On the 3rd, the Senate agreed to the house amendments to the Minnesota Land Bill, giving 200,000 acres of land to Alabama for railroad purposes.

President Pierce was engaged on the 3rd at the Capitol signing bills, and "putting the house in order" for his successor; and Mr. Buchanan was in council with his friends.

Referring to the corruption case, the New York *Tribune* says: "The House closed its proceedings on the investigation. As soon as it met in the morning, Mr. Edwards having resigned, nothing remained to be done but to expel Triplett and Simonton, which was done, the committee and House coolly throwing them away after using them, like two sucked oranges."

The President had signed the Atlantic Telegraph Bill. Senator Hunter's Tariff Bill, reducing the rates of the present tariff 20 per cent., had been adopted.

The Territorial Legislature of Kansas has passed a law to punish rebellion by death, and declaring all resistance to territorial law or authority to be rebellion. Governor Geary, fearing assassination, had sent for troops to protect him. It has already been mentioned that he was publicly assaulted.

The subject of the transfer of the Hudson's Bay Company's territory to Canada, is exciting much interest. The feeling in Canada is decidedly favourable to the union.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

Intelligence has been received at the Foreign Office, from our British Consul at Tripoli, of the assassination of Dr. Vogel. The letter received at Tripoli is from Corporal Maguire, one of the Sappers sent out with Dr. Vogel, and is written from Kuka. Dr. Vogel had departed from that place comparatively alone, on a most perilous journey eastward, with the view of reaching the Nile. He is said to have advanced through Birgirmi into Waddy, and to have been there murdered.

The definitive Treaty for the Abolition of the Duties on Vessels passing the Sound was signed at Copenhagen on Saturday. These tolls are to be abolished from the 1st April next, as regards the ships of all nations co-signatories of the treaty with Denmark, being redeemed by the payment of interest on the respective sums agreed on.

It is rumoured that M. de Morny intends to settle in Russia: that he has bought estates there; that it would not be convenient to himself to return to France just now; and that the Emperor of the French is not pleased with him.

A telegraphic communication from our own correspondent at Constantinople informs us that the Kangaroo, having on board 300 Polish soldiers and Mehemed Bey (Colonel Bangya), their chief, has succeeded in eluding the Russian cruisers, which may probably have been on the alert to intercept her in the Black Sea, and has disembarked the men, arms, and stores of the expedition upon the coast of Circassia.

A Paris letter, in the *Nord* of Brussels, says: "The French squadron in the China seas is about to be reinforced, and an arrangement has been concluded to that effect between Count Walewski, Lord Cowley, and Admiral Hamelin."

A Swiss journal was found guilty at Berne, on March 7, of having published a libellous article on the King of Prussia.

There is reason to think that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg will unite its representations to those of France and England, to induce Austria not to follow up her remonstrances to the Sardinian Government. //

Miscellaneous News.

The stranded Tyne steamship has been got off the rocks near Portland, and is now safe in Southampton Dock.

Mr. Stuart Wortley, the Solicitor-General, is stated to be suffering from a very severe attack of brain fever.

On Monday, the new free public library at Norwich was opened. The number of volumes is about 3,000. The cost of the building has been between 5,000*l.* and 6,000*l.*

Mr. Broughton, the Marylebone magistrate, has come to the conclusion that "Widow Allsop" is an impostor; and he desires those persons who have sent money for her either to reclaim it or permit him to devote it to more worthy objects.

The extensive premises of Messrs. Perkins, Bacon, and Bache, the steel-plate engravers and printers, and manufacturers for Government of postage and receipt stamps, between Fleet-street and Whitefriars-street, were partially destroyed by a fire which broke out at nine o'clock on Wednesday night.

At Marylebone Police-court, on Saturday, the man who attempted to murder Mr. Alfred Buckler, in one of the North London Railway carriages, was further examined. It had been ascertained that he was a butcher, and that his real name was not Webb, but Levy. He was remanded till Thursday.

An address, signed by 121 of the leading merchants, magistrates, bankers, and other citizens of Manchester, was recently forwarded to Sir John McNeill, K.C.B., and Col. Tulloch, expressing a lasting sense of the important services rendered by the Crimean Commissioners. Both the commissioners have acknowledged the compliment.

A number of gentlemen are forming a small company to erect a Model Lodging House in Eagle-court, Strand, London, a locality where such a building is much needed. Miss Burdett Coutts has promised to take 1,000*l.* in shares, if the remaining 4,000*l.* are subscribed; and she will endow St. Michael's Church, Burleigh-street, with the profit of the investment.

The Speaker of the House of Commons gave his last parliamentary full dress dinner on Saturday evening. The levee which he held after the dinner, and which was of course one of farewell, was attended by nearly every member now in London, some honourable members having come back from their constituencies on purpose to pay this last tribute of respect to the right honourable gentleman.

The music-room of the Crystal Palace was much crowded on Saturday, when the attractions of the concert were enhanced by the wonderful performances of the blind Italian Picco on his simple pipe. On this unpromising instrument he played with remarkable facility the solos "Casta Diva" and "Carnaval de Venise." The vocalists of the day were Miss Susan Cole and Mr. George Perren. Picco is to perform throughout the week.

Literature.

Confessions of an English Opium-eater. By THOMAS DE QUINCEY. Now first Revised and greatly Enlarged. Edinburgh: James Hogg. Who will not rejoice to receive the fifth volume of Mr. De Quincey's *Selections, Grave and Gay!* And who will wish to be detained by generalisms respecting such a favourite writer, from the particulars a reviewer may have to give of what is peculiar to a new edition of "The Confessions of an Opium-eater?" So, with a hearty welcome, and a wish that our author's health permitted the republication of his works to proceed more rapidly, we proceed to the Prefatory Notice written for this volume.

It was in 1821—before we knew anything about literature—that the *Confessions* startled and fascinated the reading world. We can well imagine the sensation of which we have heard literary greybeards speak, from the spell the book laid on us, too, when we first came under its enchantments. Great as has been its reputation, and universal the admiration of its original and powerful writing, it seems that it was "written hastily." It has been several times reproduced, yet never subjected to strict revision. Mr. De Quincey has felt that it wanted even more than revision—"integration of what had been left imperfect, or amplification of what had been insufficiently expanded." He has now re-cast the volume,—slowly, under the influence of an "obstinate malady," which, notwithstanding daily toil, has made this re-cast the labour of six months,—but carefully and completely, so that both by "the very principle of the change" executed, and "notwithstanding all drawbacks and allowances for the faulty exemplification of good principle," it, in his judgment, "is better" for the pains bestowed on it. It now, then, contains "everything previously approved, and a great deal beside that is new." Mr. De Quincey narrates the painful circumstances against which he has had to fight, in preparing the volume; expecting thus to "find toleration from a liberal critic" for "venial oversights," or "unequivocal mistakes," or a sometimes "heavy or intricate arrangement

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of sentences," or "faulty management of style and its colourings," or deficient "clearness of critical vision." We believe his critics will not require any effort to be tolerant—that they will not discover signs of weakness or infirmity, whatever his own subtlety and fastidiousness may seem to discern; but that they will confess the potency of the old spell, the whisperings and lowest breathings of which have so often changed the momentary doubts and antagonisms of criticism into admiration and perfect approval.

What Mr. De Quincey purposed further than he has been able to accomplish, for the improvement of this accepted little classic, and the causes of his failure, we will let him narrate in his own way.

"All along I had relied upon a crowning grace, which I had reserved for the final pages of this volume, in a succession of some twenty or twenty-five dreams and noon-day visions, which had arisen under the latter stages of opium influence. These have disappeared; some under circumstances which allow me a reasonable prospect of recovering them; some unaccountably; and some dishonourably. Five or six, I believe, were burned in a sudden conflagration which arose from the spark of a candle falling unobserved amongst a very large pile of papers in a bedroom, when I was alone and reading. Falling not *on*, but *amongst* and *within* the papers, the fire would soon have been a-head of conflict; and, by communicating with the slight wood-work and draperies of a bed, it would have immediately enveloped the laths of a ceiling overhead, and thus the house, far from fire-engines, would have been burned down in half-an-hour. My attention was first drawn by a sudden light upon my book; and the whole difference between a total destruction of the premises and a trivial loss (from books charred) of five guineas, was due to a large Spanish cloak. This, thrown over, and then drawn down lightly, by the aid of one sole person, somewhat agitated, but retaining her presence of mind, effectually extinguished the fire. Amongst the papers burned partially, but not so burned as to be absolutely irretrievable, was the 'Daughter of Lebanon'; and this I have printed, and have intentionally placed it at the end, as appropriately closing a record in which the case of poor Ann the Outcast formed not only the most memorable and the most suggestively pathetic incident, but also *that* which, more than any other, coloured—or (more truly I should say) shaped, moulded and remodelled, composed and decomposed—the great body of opium dreams. The search after the lost features of Ann, which I spoke of as pursued in the crowds of London, was in a more proper sense pursued through many a year in dreams. The general idea of a search and a chase reproduced itself in many shapes. The person, the rank, the age, the scenerical position, all varied themselves for ever; but the same leading traits more or less faintly remained of a lost Pariah woman, and of some shadowy malice which withdrew her, or attempted to withdraw her, from restoration and from hope. Such is the explanation which I offer why that particular addition, which some of my friends had been authorised to look for, has not in the main been given, nor the present could be given; and, secondly, why that part which is given has been placed in the conspicuous situation (as a closing passage), which it now occupies."

This little bit of preface displays the author's charming power of presenting all the details and suggestions of an incident, and of investing that which is inherently small with interest and significance. Of the new matter in the *Confessions*, inwoven as it is with the old, we will not attempt to give specimens: although some of the best and deepest things in the book are amongst the new insertions and amplifications. We cannot let our praise of this book be unaccompanied by a word of explanation, on moral grounds. We are not squeamish: we boldly profess a long-standing admiration for these *Confessions*; although we know minds at once strong and delicate, that are offended at them. But we believe in the author's good faith—whatever his own weaknesses—in preaching the moral, "*fear and tremble*": and we maintain that that is the moral of the narrative. Yet we had rather not encourage the perusal of these disclosures by those who are inclined to be (using a term coined by the late Professor Wilson) *Hedonists*—lovers of sensual pleasure—for such as are bent on indulgence in all sensations that are momentarily pleasurable, will deliberately disregard all morals to the contrary, and pooh-pooh the warning of suffering experience. Opium-eating—most seductive and degrading of vices, short of the coarsely licentious vices—has, undoubtedly, greatly increased of late years, and extensively prevails. Mr. De Quincey's book ought to prove to some a solemn caution against the practice. Where judgment and conscience are not weakly abandoned for the gratification of curiosity, or sensual craving, or the love of excitement, it must be wholesome in its influence. After all, however, its chief interest is not in its record of opium experiences, as such; but in its autobiographical reminiscences, its quaint fragments of obscure fact and forgotten history, its nooks of criticism and philosophy, and its grand world of dreams—which, apart from the interest of their opium inspiration, are glorious for their imagination, their beauty and pathos, and their embodiment of great thoughts and true sentiments. And as the new dream, the *Daughter of Lebanon*, is too long for extract entire, and too perfectly a whole to be quoted partially; let us take a brief passage which will show one of the varieties of that richly diversified matter, for which we value the book.

I had been led vividly to feel the memorable *rhabdomancy*, or magical power of evocation, which Chris-

tianity has put forth. . . . The ordinary physical rhabdomantist, who undertakes to evoke from the dark chambers of our earth wells of water lying far below its surface, and more rarely to evoke minerals, or hidden deposits of jewels and gold, by some magnetic sympathy between his rod and the occult object of his divination, is able to indicate the spot at which this object can be hopefully sought for. Not otherwise has the marvellous magnetism of Christianity called up from darkness sentiments the most august, previously inconceivable, formless, and without life; for previously there had been no religious philosophy equal to the task of ripening such sentiments; but also, at the same time, by incarnating these sentiments in images of corresponding grandeur, has so exalted their character as to lodge them eternally in human hearts. Flowers, for example, that are so pathetic in their beauty, frail as the clouds, and in their colouring as gorgeous as the heavens, had through thousands of years been the heritage of children—honoured as the jewellery of God only by *them*, when suddenly the voice of Christianity countersigning the voice of infancy, raised them to a grandeur transcending the Hebrew throne, although founded by God himself, and pronounced Solomon in all his glory not to be arrayed like one of these. Winds again, hurricanes, the eternal breathings, soft or loud, of Aeolian power, wherefore had they, raving or sleeping, escaped all moral arrest and detention? Simply because vain it were to offer a nest for the reception of some new moral birth, whilst no religion is yet moving amongst men that can furnish such a birth. Vain is the image that should illustrate a heavenly sentiment, if the sentiment is yet unborn. Then, first, when it has become necessary to the purpose of a spiritual religion that the spirit of man, as the fountain of all religion, should in some commensurate reflex image have its grandeur and its mysteriousness emblazoned, suddenly the pomp and mysterious path of winds and tempest, blowing whither they list, and from what fountains no man knows, are cited from darkness and neglect to give and to receive reciprocally an impassioned glorification, where the lower mystery enshrines and illustrates the higher. Call for the grandest of all earthly spectacles, what is that? It is the sun going to his rest. Call for the grandest of all human sentiments, what is that? It is, that man should forget his anger before he lies down to sleep. And these two grandeur, the mighty sentiment and the mighty spectacle, are by Christianity married together.

This is only a hint of what, in the course of every few pages, is to be found alongside of the author's main stream of narrative; and such matter is much more abundant in the re-cast than in the original work.

The Little World of London; or Pictures in Little of London Life. By CHARLES MANBY SMITH, Author of "Curiosities of London Life," &c. London: A. Hall, Virtue, and Co.

PROBABLY many of our readers will recollect Mr. Manby Smith's amusing, and by no means uninstructive, volume, "The Curiosities of London Life," which we had the pleasure of commanding to them sometime ago. The present work is similar in character; but its subjects are wholly different, and full of variety and freshness. They are selected from a goodly array of such papers, which have been printed by the author, in periodicals, within the last few years. He truly says, "the metropolis of Britain, and of the world, is a literary mine, which a round number of workers with head and hand have been long quarrying out to the public advantage;" and amongst all these, we give the preference to Mr. Smith, for keen and careful observation, for picturesque and lively writing, and for the moral spirit in which the materials he has quarried are employed. It is "the under-current of London Life"—the scenes, persons, manners, occupations, and amusements, of those who are almost unknown to the respectable, and hide from the open light of day and the "eye of the prying investigator"—from which the deeper and rarer interest of these sketches is derived. But there are also views on the surface, photographs of daily life, and speculations on common things, which in Mr. Smith's hands, gain surprising novelty and suggestiveness. He makes a Londoner feel that he lives in a world of which he knows almost nothing—some aspects of which would prove as foreign and barbarian to him as the Australian bush or the Feejee Islands; and that even the things hourly before his eyes, which he thinks he has been looking full upon for many a day, he neither accurately knows nor really sees. Dwellers out of London will learn what is the real life which lurks beneath artificialities and conventions, not in London only, though there preeminently, but in other great cities and towns, now rapidly becoming little Londons to the provinces: and will, also, gain more acquaintance with that which is peculiar and distinctive in London, than any series of visits, or much casual observation, could furnish them. In all his papers the author has fulfilled his purpose, "to embody truths and facts" of our infinitely varied metropolitan life; and to present "materials for thought" not readily discernible by such as have not pushed their inquiry and observation in the direction he has himself traced out.

It would be easy to make very interesting extracts,—indeed, to go on extracting "bits" from almost every successive page: but we are restrained by the fact that the work is a republication, as well as by the expectation that it will become well-known and a universal favourite.

Jessie Cameron. A Highland Story. By the Lady RACHEL BUTLER. Edinburgh: W. Blackwood and Sons.

Oh, a most charming story!—"racy of the soil"—having, as we know, the true colour of the Highland scenery, and, as we think, the true spirit of Highland life. Lady Rachel Butler has pleased us more with her simple, beautiful, effective tale, than any single-volume novel has pleased us for a good while. Her characters

are clearly drawn, thoroughly individual, and actually *alive*—not at all made-up book-people, but such as one might undoubtedly find among the Highland hills and glens. There is real knowledge, too, of manners and modes of life—of their surface lights and shades, and of their sources in habit and feeling. And the scenery—the glorious hills, the bonnie glens, the sweet birken woods, the brawling streams, the quaint homesteads—these, in words the fewest but most expressive, are brought vividly and delightfully to the eye. We do not tell anything of the story—though its plot is not elaborate, and its incidents but few—we should give no notion of that charm of real life and local colour which is the supreme merit of the story, by baldly indicating its progress. Of Jessie Cameron's true heart, and her early and only love; of her disappointed devotion, and her sad pleasures in after days of maiden loneliness; and of much and many besides—our readers must let Lady Butler herself tell them.

Gleanings.

The will of the late John Gurney, Esq., of Earlham Hall, has been proved in London under £250,000.

A monument is to be erected at Cromarty in memory of Hugh Miller.

Mr. Lumley has announced the opening of Her Majesty's Theatre on the 14th April.

Mr. Gye signed with Mr. Dillon, on Thursday afternoon, a leave to perform Italian Opera at the Lyceum for a short season.

A new umbrella has been manufactured in Connecticut, called the "lending umbrella." It is made of brown paper and willow twigs, intended exclusively to accommodate a friend.

Sir R. Peel, it appears from his Memoirs, just published, does not seem to have considered Mr. Disraeli worth even a passing observation, for he never once names him!

"Is not he a sound lawyer?" was asked concerning an Irish barrister remarkable for bawling out his speeches. "That opens the *verata quæstio* whether roaring be unsoundness or not," was the reply.

A lorcha is a vessel of which the name is derived from the Portuguese settlement at Macao, on the mouth of the Canton river, and which merely means that it is built after the European model, not that it is built in Europe.

A ship of war is to be stationed at the Kooria Mooria guano islands in the end of August. Mr. Caird, M.P., states that a tonnage equal to 150,000 tons, which has been already offered to Hindson and Hayes, subject to the condition of full protection, will be engaged to bring guano to this country.

A circular (says the *Literary Gazette*) has been issued by the solicitors to the assignees of Mr. Edwin Baldwin, announcing that the copyrights of the *Morning Herald*, *Standard*, and *St. James's Chronicle* newspapers are for sale, and that they are ready to receive tenders for their purchase, either together or separately.

BIRTHS.

March 8, at Honiton, the wife of the Rev. W. EVANS FOOTE, of a daughter.

March 8, at Willenhall, East Barnet, Mrs. CHARLES A. HANBURY, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

March 3, at Tytherington Church, Soham, by the father of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. J. Skinner, of Fordham, and the Rev. W. J. Spooner, of Soham, ROBERT, second son of the Rev. Wm. Legge, of Fakenham, to CAROLINE, youngest daughter of THOMAS PEAK, Esq., of Soham.

March 11, at Bloomsbury Chapel, by the Rev. W. Brock, JAMES MATHEWS, Esq., merchant, Calcutta, to HARRIET JANE, daughter of the late FRANCIS ALLAN, Esq., and niece of JAMES ALLAN, Esq., 7, York-terrace, Regent's-park.

March 12, at Kent-street Chapel, Portsea, by the father of the bride, BENJAMIN CUNNINGHAM WATERS, of Woolwich, to HANNAH Booth, only daughter of the Rev. JOSEPH DAVIS, Baptist minister.

March 12, at St. Pancras Church, by the Rev. Robert Ernest Wallis, of Taunton, Somersetshire, cousin of the brides, assisted by the Rev. J. M. Hussey, of Kennington, THOMAS MORSE, only son of Wm. JENKINS, Esq., of Chester, to MARTHA LOUISA, second daughter of HENRY WALLIS, Esq., of 50, Bedford-square; and, at the same time, ALEXANDER LEONARD, only son of JOSEPH LEXEUX, Esq., of Kennington, to JANE MARY, third daughter of the above HENRY WALLIS, Esq.

March 12, at the Old Meeting, Bedworth, by licence, by the Rev. Samuel Hillyard, Mr. THOMAS HARRISON, to Miss SARAH SMART, both of Bedworth.

March 12, at Liverpool-road Chapel, by the Rev. Dr. Bunting, the Rev. WM. SHAW, of Graham's-town, South Africa, to MARIA, widow of JOHN BOURNE OGLE, of Bolton, Lancashire, and eldest daughter of the late JOSEPH SHAW, Esq., of Thornhill-square, Islington, London.

March 12, at the British Embassy, Paris, by the Rev. T. Hale, D.D., SAMUEL MULLINGS, Esq., nephew of J. E. MULLINGS, Esq., M.P. for Cirencester, to MARY ANN, second daughter of Major DICKENS, of Tours, and grand-daughter of the late CARE THOMAS BRACKENBURY, Esq., of Broomfield Lodge, Essex.

DEATHS.

March 8, at Chelsea, Mr. NICHOLAS CARTER MORRISON, in his seventy-fifth year.

March 8, at Dalston, CHARLES GRISSELL, Esq., aged seventy-six.

March 9, at his residence, 13, Primrose-terrace, Gravesend, W.M. KINGHAM, Esq., in his sixty-sixth year.

March 10, at his residence, Duke-street, St. James's, GEORGE S. GREENAWAY, Esq., aged forty-nine.

March 10, JOANNA, the beloved wife of the Rev. HENRY BROMLEY, Secretary of the Protestant Union, and formerly for many years pastor of the Independent Church, Clavering, Essex, in her sixty-second year.

March 10, at his residence, Inglewood Lodge, Lower Tulse-hill, Brixton, JOHN BEALBY, Esq.

March 10, CATHERINE, relief of Mr. THOMAS ROBERTSON, ironmonger, late of Church-street, Hackney, aged seventy-seven.

March 11, WM. COPLAND, Esq., of Stoke Newington, aged sixty-one.

March 11, at 21, Ladbroke-square, FRANCES ANNE, the beloved wife of THOMAS MELLADWY, Esq., youngest daughter of the late Admiral Sir Ross DONNELLY, K.C.B., and sister of the Baroness HUETTELOUP and of the late Lady AUDLEY.

March 11, at his residence, 11, Great Cumberland-place, Hyde-park, RICHARD COOK, Esq., K.A., in his seventy-fourth year.

March 11, in Manchester-street, Manchester-square, JAMES BUTLER, Esq., aged eighty-seven.
 March 13, at Knole-park, the Right Hon. the Earl AMHERST aged eighty-four.
 March 15, at Great Torrington, much regretted, CHARLES VEVETTE, Esq., aged sixty-two. His death is a public loss. He was active in all philanthropies, a consistent Nonconformist, and a gratuitous village preacher for forty years.
 March 15, after a long and painful illness, Mrs. ANN LANE, of Walworth, aged seventy-seven.
 At Brighton, the Hon. MARGARET, daughter of the late THOMAS, Lord ESKINE, in her eighty-first year.

Money Market, and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, TUESDAY EVENING.

The Money Market continues in a heavy state. The funds have again declined $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and in the market for English railway stocks the reduction amounted to $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. At one period of the day the markets were additionally prejudiced by an unfounded report that a very large quantity of gold had been withdrawn from the Bank to-day. Apart, however, from sinister rumours, the stringency of the money market and the unfavourable appearance of the bullion movement are inducing sales on the part of discouraged speculators for the rise. It is also found that the preparations for the general election tend to restrict speculative business in the Stock Exchange. The demand for money to-day was again general and active, though without absolute pressure. In the Stock Exchange the share settlement, which is now brought to a close, led to an increased demand at 6 to 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on Government stock, and some loans were obtained from the bank. Consols are 92 $\frac{1}{2}$ 93 for Money, and 93 $\frac{1}{2}$ 93 $\frac{1}{2}$ for the Account. Owing to the demand for money consequent on the settlement, Exchequer-bills have receded to 1s. dis. and 1s. prem.; and East India Bonds are 2s. dis. to 2s. prem.

The Foreign Market, with one or two exceptions, rules steady. A very limited amount of business has been done in the Railway Share Market, and prices still tend downwards. Mining Shares are quite neglected. Joint-Stock Bank and Miscellaneous Shares are dull, and at lower quotations.

The accounts of the manufacturing trade of the country for the past week present no material change. At Manchester the tendency has been towards firmness, owing to the Indian advices. In the Birmingham iron-market there has been less general activity, although quotations have been maintained, and no reduction is anticipated for the ensuing quarter. The general manufactures of the town continue to be affected by the high prices of tin and copper. At Nottingham there has been a diminished home demand for lace, but the foreign orders have been large. The woollen districts and the Irish linen-markets have been without animation.

The general business of the port of London during the past week was moderately active. The total number of ships entered inward was 143, being 21 more than in the previous week. These included 26 with cargoes of corn, grain, &c., 9 with cargoes of sugar, 2 with cargoes of dried fruit, and 2 with cargoes of tea, comprising 19,555 packages, nearly all of which are chests. The number of vessels cleared outward was 121, including 3 in ballast, showing an increase of 4. The total number of ships on the berths loading for the Australian colonies is 54, being 5 less than at the last account; of these 7 are for Adelaide, 4 for Geelong, 2 for Hobart Town, 3 for Launceston, 4 for Melbourne, 7 for New Zealand, 14 for Port Phillip, 1 for Portland Bay, 11 for Sydney, and 1 for Swan River.

The departures from the port of London for the Australian colonies during the past week comprised nine vessels—five to Port Phillip, two to Sydney, one to Wellington, and one to Adelaide, with an aggregate capacity of 7,785 tons. The rates of freight continue to exhibit heaviness.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per C. Consols	93 $\frac{1}{2}$ 4	93 $\frac{1}{2}$				
Consols for Ac-						
count	93 $\frac{1}{2}$ 4	93 $\frac{1}{2}$				
3 per Cent. Red.						
New 3 per Cent.						
Annuities....	Shut	Shut	Shut	—	—	—
India Stock....	—	—	—	223	—	—
Bank Stock....	722	Shut	Shut	—	—	—
Exchequer-bills....	3 pm	3 pm	par	3 pm	2 pm	2 pm
India Bonds....	2 pm	2 dis	—	—	2 pm	—
Long Annuities	Shut	Shut	Shut	—	—	—

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's *Gazette*.)

An Account pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, c. 32, for the week ending on Saturday, the 7th day of March, 1857.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£24,098,045	Government Debt . . £11,015,100
Consoles for Ac-		Other Securities 3,459,900
count	93 $\frac{1}{2}$ 4	Gold Coin & Bullion 9,623,045
		Silver Bullion —

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital £14,553,000	Government Securi-
Bet 3,786,603	ties (including Dead
Public Deposits 8,137,341	Weight Annuity) £11,678,516
Other Deposits 9,955,504	Other Securities 19,535,196
Seven Day and other Bills 739,595	Notes 5,370,880
	Gold and Silver Coin 637,451

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£24,098,045	Government Debt . . £11,015,100
Consoles for Ac-		Other Securities 3,459,900
count	93 $\frac{1}{2}$ 4	Gold Coin & Bullion 9,623,045
		Silver Bullion —

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital £14,553,000	Government Securi-
Bet 3,786,603	ties (including Dead
Public Deposits 8,137,341	Weight Annuity) £11,678,516
Other Deposits 9,955,504	Other Securities 19,535,196
Seven Day and other Bills 739,595	Notes 5,370,880

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neglected. Holders, however, generally refuse to sell unless on higher terms, which are likely to be realised shortly after the present sales are brought to a close. The supply of English wool here is unusually small. The sales have progressed steadily, but there has been a slight falling off in the attendance of foreign buyers, who had no doubt fully supplied themselves previously. The lower qualities of Cape wool have declined about 1d to 1½d per lb, but the better, as well as Australian and New Zealand descriptions, fully maintained the rates realised at the opening of the sales.

Per pack of 240 lbs.

South Down hogs—fleeces	£1 0 to £22 0
Half-bred ditto	19 10 to 20 10
Kent	17 10 to 18 0
South Down ewes and wethers	18 0 to 19 0
Leicesters	17 0 to 18 10
Clothing picklock—sorts	22 0 to 23 0
Prime and picklock	20 10 to 21 0
Choice	18 0 to 19 0
Super	17 0 to 18 0
Combining wether matching	23 0 to 24 0
Picklock	19 10 to 20 0
Common	16 0 to 17 0
Hog matching	24 10 to 25 0
Picklock matching	20 10 to 21 10
Super ditto	17 10 to 18 10

OILS, Monday, March 16.—Linseed oil is in moderate request, at 4s per cwt. Rape is steady, at 50s 6d to 54s. In cocoanut very little is doing, at from 49s to 50s 6d. Palm is steady, at 45s to 46s. Olive supports previous rates; and sperm is worth 100s to 102s for fine. Other oils are well supported; and turpentine continues to give way in price.

FLAX, HEMP, COTTON, &c.—Manilla hemp has sold steadily at from 36s to 37s per ton; but Russian qualities are neglected. Petersburg clean, 25½ lbs to 33s; outshot, 36s to 36½ lbs; half-clean, 30s to 30½ lbs per ton. Flax moves off slowly on former terms; but jute and cotton goods are firm in price.

HIDE AND SKIN MARKETS, Saturday, March 14.

Market Hides, 56 to 64 lbs.	0 5½ to 6 5½ per lb
Ditto	64 72 lbs.
Ditto	72 80 lbs.
Ditto	80 88 lbs.
Ditto	88 96 lbs.
Ditto	96 104 lbs.
Horse Hides	0 6 10 0 each
Calf Skins, light	3 0 5 0 "
Ditto full	9 0 6 0 "
Pulled Sheep	10 0 11 6 "
Kents and Half Broads	8 0 9 6 "
Downs	6 0 8 0 "
Lambs	0 0 0 0 "
Shearlings	1 4 1 5 "

HAY.—SMITHFIELD, March 17.—Trade slow. Prices without alteration. Prime meadow hay, 63s to 68s; superior ditto, 70s to 80s; inferior ditto, 50s to 58s; rowen, 50s to 60s; clover, 70s to 100s; second cut, 60s to 80s; straw, 26s to 30s.

COALS, Monday.—A firm market, at the rates of Friday. Hetton's, 17s Gd—South Kelloe, 15s—Henton Lyons, 14s—Eden, 16s—Tanfield, 12s—Walker's Primrose, 13s 6d. Fresh arrivals, 9s; left from last day, 5s; total, 18s.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, March 17.—The market closed with a hardening tendency at the extreme rates of last week. Buyers have been slow and holders very confident. The sales are 5,000 bales (750 on speculation), comprising 100 Pernam and Maranhão, at 6d to 9d; 200 Bahia, at 7½d to 8d; and 700 Surat, at 6d to 6½d per lb. Imports since Thursday, 45,000 bales.

Advertisements.

Recently published, in fasc., 8vo, price 3s. 6d.,

EXPOSITORY DISCOURSES on the EPISTLE to the PHILIPPIANS. By THOMAS TOLIVER. "A book which though not sent to us to review, we take pleasure in recommending to our readers, for its robust Christianity, its sincere spirit, and its beautifully chaste expression."—Christian Spectator.

"We think the theological student will find his account in the perusal of this little manual. We commend this volume as perhaps the best exposition in our language on this part of Scripture."—Eclectic Review.

London: John Snow.

CLARKE'S FOREIGN THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY.

Now ready, Vols. 1st and 2nd for 1857, viz.:—

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Edinburgh: T. and T. Clark. London: Hamilton and Co. (for Non-Subscribers only.)

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THE NEW PETTICOAT is made with Springs of Brass Steel or Malagar, and is remarkable for its lightness and elasticity.

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Retailed in London by Snow, Paternoster-row; Ford and Son, Islington; Morgan, Sloane-street; Williams, Moorgate-street; Modes, Camberwell; Weatherley, Peckham; Poultney, Hackney; and others.

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Instituted 1820.

T. GEORGE BARCLAY, Esq., Chairman.

MARTIN T. SMITH, Esq., M.P., Deputy-Chairman.

One-third of the Premium on Insurances of 500l. and upwards, for the whole term of life, may remain as a debt upon the Policy, to be paid off at convenience; or the Directors will lend sums of 500l. and upwards, on the security of Policies effected with this Company, for the whole term of life, when they have acquired an adequate value.

Four-fifths, or Eighty per cent., of the Profits are assigned to Policies every fifth year, and may be applied to increase the sum insured, to an immediate payment in cash, or to the reduction and ultimate extinction of future Premiums.

At the fifth appropriation of profits for the five years terminating January 31, 1856, a reversionary bonus was declared of 12. 10s. per cent. on the sums insured, and subsisting additions for every premium paid during the five years. This bonus, on policies of the longest duration, exceeds 21. 5s. per cent. per annum on the original sums insured, and increases a policy of 1,000l. to 1,632s.

Proposals for insurances may be made at the Chief Office, as above; at the Branch Office, 16, Pall-mall, London; or to any of the Agents throughout the kingdom.

BONUS TABLE.

SHOWING THE ADDITIONS MADE TO POLICIES OF 1,000L EACH.

Date of Insurance.	Amount of Additions to Feb. 1, 1851.	Addition made as on Feb. 1, 1856.	Sum Payable after Death.
1820	£ 523 16 0	£ 114 5 0	£ 1628 1 0
1825	382 14 0	103 14 0	1486 8 0
1830	241 12 0	93 2 0	1334 14 0
1835	185 3 0	88 17 0	1274 0 0
1840	128 15 0	84 13 0	1213 8 0
1845	65 15 0	79 18 0	1145 13 0
1850	10 0 0	75 15 0	1085 15 0
1855	—	15 0 0	1015 0 0

And for intermediate years in proportion.

The next appropriation will be made in 1861. Insurances, without participation in Profits, may be effected at reduced rates.

SAMUEL INGALL, Actuary.

ESTABLISHED 1828.

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SUMS from 5l. to 500l. may be obtained three days after application.

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Patent Front Fastening Stays	9	12 6
Self-Lacing Expanding Corsets	10 6	14 6
Paris Wave Stays (all sizes)	6 6	10 6
Crenoline Petticoats (lined flannel)	9 6	12 6
Linsey Woolsey Petticoats (all colours)	9 6	14 6
Lama Wool do (all colours)	14 6	21 0
Australian Wool Quilted (appearance Satin)	17 6	21 0
Carter's Patent Railway Safety Pocket	1	1 6
Family and Nursing Stays, Belts, &c.,	always on hand.	

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ADNAM'S IMPROVED PATENT GROATS AND BARLEY. The only existent Patent and strongly recommended by the Medical Profession.

TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, and FAMILIES.—The important object, so desirable to be obtained, has at length been secured to the public by J. and J. C. ADNAM, Patentees, who, after much time and attention, have succeeded by their Improved Process in producing preparations of the purest and finest quality even manufactured from the Oat and Barley.

To enumerate the many advantages derived by the public from the use of the Improved Patent Groats is not the intention of the Patentees; suffice it to say that, by the process of manufacture, the acidity and unpleasant flavour so generally complained of in other preparations is totally obviated, and very superior gruel speedily made therefrom. It is particularly recommended to those of consumptive constitutions, Ladies and Children; and the healthy and strong will find it an excellent Luncheon or Supper.

The Barley, being prepared by a similar process, is as pure as can be manufactured, and will be found to produce light and nourishing Food for Infants and the Aged; and to contain all the necessary properties for making a delicious pudding. It has also the distinguishing character for making very superior barley Water, 9s. Goswell-road, and 148, Holborn-bars, London. Established thirty years.

A report having been circulated that preparations of so white a character could not be produced from Groats and Barley alone. The Patentees have had recourse to the highest authority, viz., A. S. TAYLOR, M.D., F.R.S., &c., &c., for an analysis to establish the fact, a copy of which is subjoined:—

[COPY.]
Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital,
February 19, 1855.

"I have submitted to a microscopical and chemical examination the samples of Barley and Groats which you have forwarded to me, and I beg to inform you that I find in them only those principles which are found in good Barley; there is no mineral or other impurity present, and from the result of my investigation, I believe them to be genuine, and to possess those nutritive properties assigned by the late Dr. Pereira to this description of food. (Signed)

"MESSRS. ADNAM and Co." "A. S. TAYLOR."

CAUTION.—To prevent errors, the public are requested to observe that each Package bears the signature of the Patentees, J. and J. C. ADNAM.

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BUY HIND'S CELEBRATED MIXTURE, corner of North-
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largest stock of Cutlery in the world is kept.**

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PINTS.—HARRINGTON, PARKER, and Co., are now
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Its surpassing excellence is vouch'd for by the highest Medical
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**HER MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT still allows these wines to
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THE "UNIVERSAL" BRANDY, 18s. per gallon, or 30s. per
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and half post paid to any part of England, Scotland, Ireland,
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BENSON, 39 and 40, Ludgate-hill.**

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the BISCUIT-PLATE MANUFACTURING SILVER-
SMITHS, BRONZISTS, &c., beg to intimate that they have
added to their extensive Stocks a large variety of new denoms. in
the highest class of art, which have recently obtained for them
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GOLD and SILVER WATCHES for
PRESENTATION WATCHES.**

**First Class. Second Class. Third Class.
Gold, 40 Guineas. 30 Guineas. 20 Guineas.
Silver, 20 " 15 " 10 "**

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guaranteed.**

**Having been manufactured for the express purpose of Pre-
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that public bodies who desire to present a valuable and lasting me-
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of art, at a very moderate price. Gold Chains to suit.**

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SCREENED COALS, as supplied by them to Her Majesty.—13,
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HETTON'S, 2s. PER TON, the best house coal in the
world, are brought direct from the Colliery to the Poplar Docks,
by the screw-steamer Cochrane, Hetton, and Northumberland;
or the Marchioness of Londonderry's Stewart's Wallsend de-
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Highgate, Hampstead, Hornsey, of Edmonton, 1s. per ton extra.
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Guineas. Several others at low prices. To be seen at Messrs.
Ralph Smith and CO., 177, Bishopsgate-street without.**

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**THE CONCERTINA, manufactured solely
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sided, with double action, to play in five keys; ditto, 27. 12s. 6d.
to play in all the keys.**

**The PATENT CONCERTINA, unvalued 18. 10s.,
and of extra power, as manufactured for Signor Rignoli, and the
most eminent performers. These Instruments, price Twelve
Guineas, keep better in tune, and are better finished than any
others. Rosewood Concertina, with Forty-eight Ivory Keys,
double action, may now be had from Four Guineas.**

**The PATENT DUET CONCERTINA (invented by Messrs.
W. and CO.) This novel and extraordinary instrument com-
prises two separate Concertinas. The Concertina for each hand
is complete and independent of the other, the left hand may be
used for accompanying on the Pianoforte; either being sufficient
for the performance of a melody. Price 12. 11s. 6d. and 21. 2s.**

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for these Instruments, may be had on application to WHEAT-
STONE and CO., 20, Conduit-street, Regent-street, London.**

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METHOD of TEACHING to SING, its Educational
Principles, its process of Teaching; its Teachers; its Publications;
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Pants" (tonic sol-fa edition), 9d. Romberg's "Song of
the Bell," 1s. Haydn's "Spring," 9d. Handel's "Messiah," and
Haydn's "Creation" in the press. Hickox's "Moral Songs
from the Singing Master," and "Goslich's Bird of Passage,"
both in Nos., price 1d. "The Tonic Sol-fa Reporter," Vol. II.,
cloth, 2s.**

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price 1d., or in cloth 2d. The sale of more than 80,000
Copies in the last Half-year, proves the continued popularity of this—the
first of the Penny Sunday-school Hymn-books. It is
now carefully remodelled and considerably enlarged. The
Hymns are printed for "expression." It is connected with the
"Child's Own Tune-book," 6d.**

**THE SCHOOL SONGS, Sacred, Moral, and
Descriptive, price 3d. Large Edition, 6d. The sale of this
was more than 25,000 in the last year. It is connected with
"School Music**

neglected. Holders, however, generally refuse to sell unless on higher terms, which are likely to be realised shortly after the present sales are brought to a close. The supply of English wool here is unusually small. The sales have progressed steadily, but there has been a slight falling off in the attendance of foreign buyers, who had no doubt fully supplied themselves previously. The lower qualities of Cape wool have declined about 1d to 1½d per lb, but the better, as well as Australian and New Zealand descriptions, fully maintained the rates realised at the opening of the sales.

Per pack of 240lbs.

South Down hogs-fleeces	£1 0 to £22 0
Half-bred ditto	19 10 to 20 10
Kent	17 10 to 18 0
South Down ewes and wethers	18 0 to 19 0
Leicesters	17 0 to 18 10
Clothing picklock-sorts	22 0 to 23 0
Prime and picklock	20 10 to 21 0
Choice	18 0 to 19 0
Super	17 0 to 18 0
Combine wether matching	23 0 to 24 0
Picklock	19 10 to 20 0
Common	16 0 to 17 0
Hog matching	24 10 to 25 0
Picklock matching	20 10 to 21 0
Super ditto	17 10 to 18 10

OILS, Monday, March 16.—Linseed oil is in moderate request, at 4½s per cwt. Rape is steady, at 5d to 5½s. In cocoanut very little is doing, at from 4½s to 5½s 6d. Palm is steady, at 45s to 46s. Olive supports previous rates; and sperm is worth 10d to 10½d per fine. Other oils are well supported; and turpentine continues to give way in price.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c.—Manilla henni has sold steadily at from 3d to 5d per ton; but Russian qualities are neglected. Petersburg clean, 35d 10s to 36d; outshot, 36d to 36d 10s; half-clean, 30d to 30d 10s per ton. Flax moves off slowly on former terms; but jute and coir goods are firm in price.

HIDE AND SKIN MARKETS, Saturday, March 11.

Market Hides, 56 to 64lbs.	0 5½ to 0 5½ per lb
Ditto	64 72 lbs.
Ditto	72 80 lbs.
Ditto	80 88 lbs.
Ditto	88 96 lbs.
Ditto	96 104 lbs.
Horse Hides	0 0 to 10 0 each
Calf Skins, light	3 0 5 0 "
Ditto full	9 6 0 0 "
Poiled Sheep	10 0 11 6 "
Kents and Half Breds	8 6 9 6 "
Downs	6 6 8 0 "
Lambs	0 0 0 0 "
Shearlings	1 4 1 5 "

HAY.—SMITHFIELD, March 17.—Trade slow. Prices without alteration. Prime meadow hay, 63s to 68s; superior ditto, 70s to 80s; inferior ditto, 50s to 55s; rye, 50s to 60s; clover, 70s to 100s; second cut, 60s to 80s; straw, 25s to 30s.

COALS, Monday.—A firm market, at the rates of Friday. Hetton's, 17s 6d—South Kelloe, 15s—Hutton Lyons, 14s—Eden, 16s—Tanfield, 13s—Walker's Primrose, 13s 6d. Fresh arrivals, 8; left from last day, 5; total, 13.

COTTON, LIVERPOOL, March 17.—The market closed with a hardening tendency at the extreme rates of last week. Buyers have been slow and holders very confident. The sales are 5,000 bales (750 on speculation), comprising 100 Pernambuco and Maranhão, at 8d to 9d; 200 Bahia, at 7d to 8d; and 700 Surat, at 4d to 6d per lb. Imports since Thursday, 45,000 bales.

Advertisements.

EXPOSITORY DISCOURSES on the EPISTLE to the PHILIPPIANS. By THOMAS TOLLETT. "A book which though not sent to us to review, we take pleasure in recommending to our readers, for its robust Christianity, its sincere spirit, and its beautifully chaste expression."—Christian Spectator.

"We think the theological student will find his account in the perusal of this little manual. We commend this volume as perhaps the best exposition in our language on this part of Scripture."—Eclectic Review.

London: John Snow.

CLARKE'S FOREIGN THEOLOGICAL LIBRARY. Now ready, Vols. 1st and 2nd for 1857, viz.:—

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The Subscription for 1857 is now due (One Pound). The remaining Vols. for 1857 will be KEIL, on KING'S and CHRONICLES, Two Vols. The Second Series may be had on remittance, either direct, or through a Bookseller, of Four Guineas (including 1857).

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Four-fifths, or Eighty per cent., of the Profits are assigned to Policies every fifth year, and may be applied to increase the sum awarded, to an immediate payment in cash, or to the reduction and ultimate extinction of future Premiums.

At the fifth appropriation of profits for the five years terminating January 31, 1856, a reversionary bonus was declared of 12. 10s. per cent. on the sums insured, and subsisting additions for every premium paid during the five years. This bonus, on policies of the longest duration, exceeds 21. 5s. per cent. per annum on the original sum insured, and increases a policy of 1,000l. to 1,638l.

Proposals for insurances may be made at the Chief Office, as above; at the Branch Office, 16, Pall-mall, London; or to any of the Agents throughout the kingdom.

BONUS TABLE.

SHOWING THE ADDITIONS MADE TO POLICIES OF 1,000L EACH.

Date of Insurance.	Amount of Additions to Feb. 1, 1851.	Addition made as on Feb. 1, 1856.	Sum Payable after Death.
1821	523 16 0	114 5 0	1638 1 0
1825	282 14 0	103 14 0	1486 8 0
1830	241 12 0	93 2 0	1324 14 0
1835	185 3 0	88 17 0	1271 0 0
1840	128 1 0	84 13 0	1213 8 0
1845	65 15 0	79 18 0	1145 13 0
1850	10 0 0	75 15 0	1085 15 0
1855	—	15 0 0	1015 0 0

And for intermediate years in proportion.

The next appropriation will be made in 1861.

Insurances, without participation in Profits, may be effected at reduced rates.

SAMUEL INGALL, Actuary.

ESTABLISHED 1838.

Registered pursuant to 58 & 7 and 8 Vic., cap. 110.

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	s. d.	s. d.
Elastic Double Contil Winter Bodices	4 11 and 9 6	
Patent Front Fastening Stays	9	12 6
Self-Lacing Expanding Corsets	10 6 "	14
Paris Wave Stays (all sizes)	6 6 "	10 6
Creminole Petticoats (lined flannel)	9 6 "	12
Linen Wool Petticoats (all colours)	9 6 "	14 6
Lama Wool do (all colours)	14 6 "	21 0
Australian Wool Quilted (appearance Satin)	17 6 "	21 0
Carter's Patent Railway Safety Pocket	1	1 6
Family and Nursing Stays, Belts, &c., always on hand.		

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TO INVALIDS, MOTHERS, and FAMILIES.—The important object, so desirable to be obtained, has at length been secured to the public by J. and J. C. ADNAM, Patentees, who, after much time and attention, have succeeded by their Improved Process in producing preparations of the purest and finest quality even manufactured from the Oat and Barley.

To enumerate the many advantages derived by the public from the use of the Improved Patent Groats is not the intention of the Patentees; suffice it to say that, by the process of manufacture, the acidity and unpleasant flavour so generally complained of in other preparations is totally obviated, and very superior gruel specially made therefrom. It is particularly recommended to those of consumptive constitutions, Ladies and Children; and the healthy and strong will find it an excellent Luncheon or Supper.

The Barley, being prepared by a similar process, is as pure as can be manufactured, and will be found to produce light and nourishing Food for Infants and the Aged; and to contain all the necessary properties for making a delicious pudding. It is also the distinguishing character for making very superior Barley Water, and will be found a most excellent ingredient for thickening Soup, &c.

A report having been circulated that preparations of so white a character could not be produced from Groats and Barley alone, the Patentees have had recourse to the highest authority, viz., A. S. TAYLOR, M.D., F.R.S., &c., &c., for an analysis to establish the fact, a copy of which is subjoined:

[COPY.] "Chemical Laboratory, Guy's Hospital, February 19, 1855.

"I have submitted to a microscopic and chemical examination the samples of Barley and Groats which you have forwarded to me, and I beg to inform you that I find in them only those principles which are found in good Barley; there is no mineral or other impurity present, and from the result of my investigation, I believe them to be genuine, and to possess those nutritive properties assigned by the late Dr. Pereira to this description of food.

(Signed)

"Messrs. ADNAM and CO." "A. S. TAYLOR."

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SPANISH HAMS, 8*½*d. per lb.; good Cheshire Cheese, 5*½*d., 6*½*d., and 7*½*d. per lb.; rich blue monid Stilton, 8d., 10*½*d., 12*½*d.; matchless do., 14*½*d. per lb. Osborne's far-famed peat-smoked Breakfast Bacon is now in excellent cure. York Hams, large and small, in abundance; and Butters in perfection, at reasonable rates. A saving of fifteen per cent. to the purchaser on all provisions, and packages gratis. OSBORNE'S CHEESE WAREHOUSE, 30, Ludgate-hill, near St. Paul's.

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These Pills can be procured of any respectable Medicine Vendor, in Boxes at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 4s. 6d. each, or should any difficulty occur, enclose 1s. 5d., or 54 stamps (according to size), prepaid, to Page D. Woodcock, Lincoln, and they will be sent free to any part of the United Kingdom.

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PREPARED FOOD FOR INFANTS.

ANALYSED AND RECOMMENDED BY DR. ANDREW URE AND THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

T AND D. CALLARD and BOWSER beg to solicit attention to their “Prepared Food for Infants,” having obtained, by their process of manufacture, a light, nutritious, unmedicated, Farinaceous Food, not having the astringent properties of so many articles now in use, they submit it to the public at a price that places it within the reach of all.

EXTRACT FROM THE “MEDICAL CIRCULAR.”

Oct. 24, 1855.

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FOR CONSTIPATION, INDIGESTION (DYSPERIA), NERVOUS, BILIOUS, AND LIVER COMPLAINTS, COUGH, CONSUMPTION, AND DYSMESIS.

DU BARRY'S DELICIOUS REVALENTA ARABICA FOOD saves fifty times its cost in other medicines, and cures the above complaints and their consequences, such as flatulence, distension, acidity, heartburn, palpitation of the heart, nervous headaches, deafness, noises in the head and ears, pains at the pit of the stomach and between the shoulders and epigastrium, eruptions of the skin, impurities and poverty of the blood, scrofula, cough, asthma, consumption, dropsy, rheumatism, gout; nausea and sickness during pregnancy, after eating, or at sea; low spirits, spasms, cramps, epileptic fits, spleen, general debility, inquietude, sleeplessness, involuntary blushing, paralysis, tremors, dislike to society, unfitness for study, loss of memory, delusions, vertigo, blood to the head, exhaustion, melancholy, groundless fear, indecision, wretchedness. It is, moreover, the best food for infants and invalids generally, as it never turns sour on the weakest stomach, nor interferes with a good liberal diet, but imparts a healthy relish, for lunch and dinner, and restores the faculty of digestion, and nervous and muscular energy to the most unfeeling.

IMPORTANT CAUTION against the fearful dangers of spurious imitations:—

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A few out of 50,000 cures are given:—

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CRYSTAL PALACE.—MISS VANNING will SING in the CONCERT on SATURDAY NEXT, the 21st March.

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Admission to the whole, 1s.; Children and Schools, half-price.

FATHER GAVAZZI will deliver THREE LECTURES at SION CHAPEL, WHITECHAPEL.

On MONDAY 23—"Papacy in England, and its Protestant Supporters." March 26—"The Inquisition (Ancient and Modern)." March 28—"Italy." To commence at Eight o'clock. Tickets, 6d. and 1s. for either Lecture; or for the Three Lectures, 2s. 6d., Reserved Seats. To be had of Messrs. Mead and Powell, 101, Whitechapel.

APPRENTICESHIP SOCIETY.

The HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING of the Subscribers of the Society will be held at the CONGREGATIONAL LIBRARY, BLOMFIELD-STREET, FINSBURY-CIRCUS, on TUESDAY, March 31, 1857, when SEVEN CANDIDATES will be elected to the benefit of the Institution.

By order of the Committee,

I. VALE MUMMERY, } Hon. Secs.

W. WELLS KILPIN, } Hon. Secs.

The Poll will commence at Eleven, and close at One precisely. Persons subscribing at the Election may vote immediately.

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WANTED, by a respectable and industrious YOUNG PERSON, a SITUATION to WAIT upon an ELDERLY LADY, or as NURSE in a family.

Apply to M. A., Post-office, Broadway, Worcestershire.

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WANTED, ONE or TWO CHILDREN to DRY NURSE (or from the month), in the healthy village of Sutton, Surrey. Respectable references given and required.

Apply to Mrs. Edmonds, Resterton's Lodge, near the Railway.

TO BE DISPOSED OF, a HANDSOME BOARD, Nine feet by Four, with "HOMEOPATHIC DISPENSARY" printed in gold letters on chocolate ground.

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TO MINISTERS, SUNDAY-SCHOOL TEACHERS, and OTHERS.—THE FIFTH VOLUME of the "LIBRARY OF BIBLICAL LITERATURE" will be ready with the Magazines at the end of March. Orders for this Volume should be immediately given to the Booksellers.

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THE NATIONAL NEWSPAPER LEAGUE COMPANY (Limited).—AGENTS are WANTED in all parts of the kingdom to promote the interests of this Company. Eleven hundred Shareholders are already enrolled, and upwards of 31,000⁰⁰⁰ of stock subscribed. Ministers and intelligent laymen who are actively engaged in works of Christian benevolence, will find this Agency consistent and compatible with their other pursuits. No risks.

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Mr. THORN receives into his house a small number of Pupils. In addition to the requisites of an English education, the Course comprises instruction in French, German, Latin, and Greek; and in Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, and Conic Sections. German by a native of Saxony; and Mathematics by a Graduate of the University of London. References on application.

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NOTICE of DIVIDEND.—At the First Annual Meeting of the Shareholders of the LIFE ASSURANCE TREASURY, and DEPOSIT, ASSURANCE, and SAVINGS' BANK, the Right Hon. the EARL of DEVON in the Chair, the Report and Balance-Sheet for the past year having been adopted, it was unanimously ordered that a Dividend of Five per Cent. should be paid to the Shareholders.

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